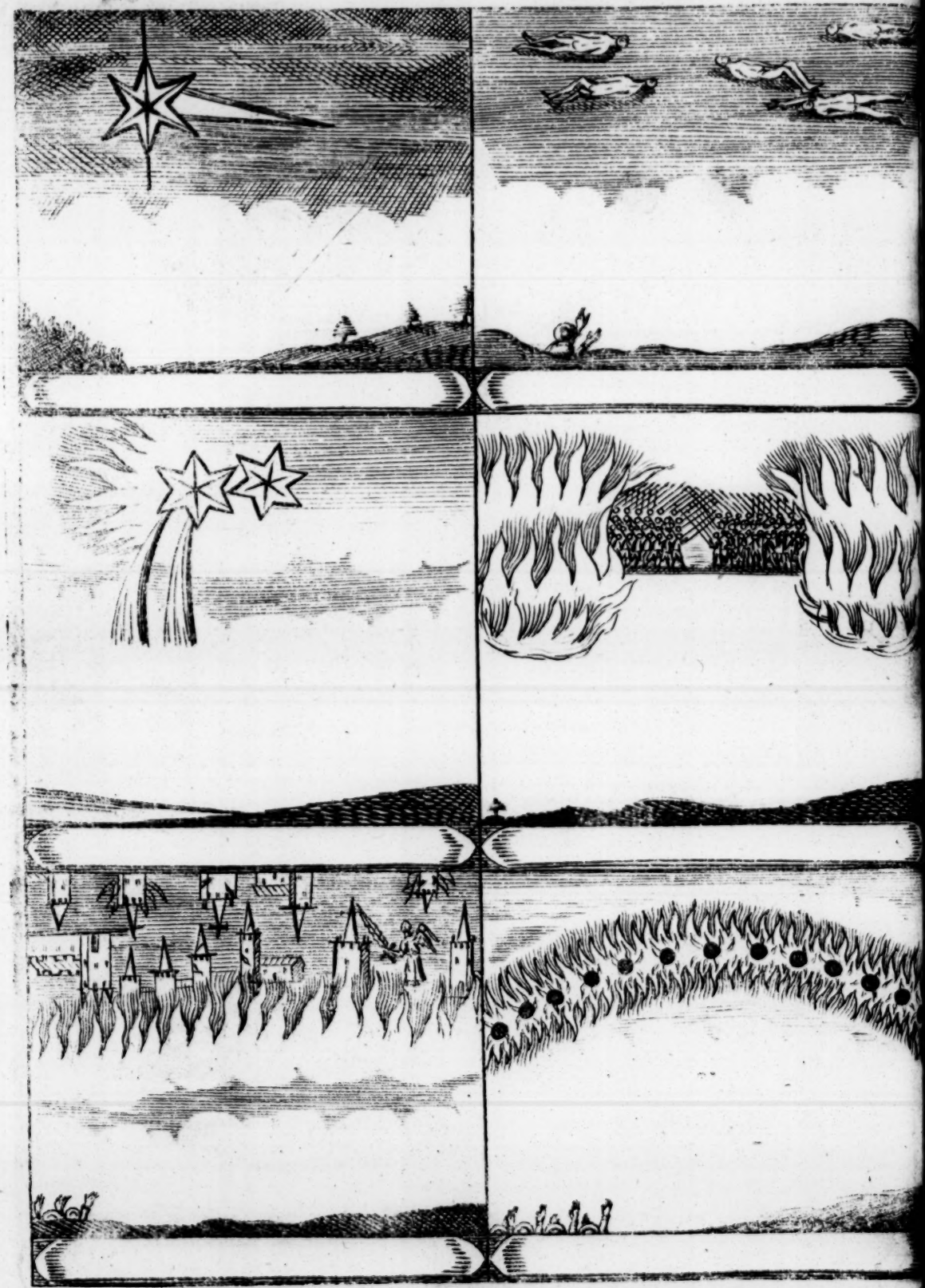

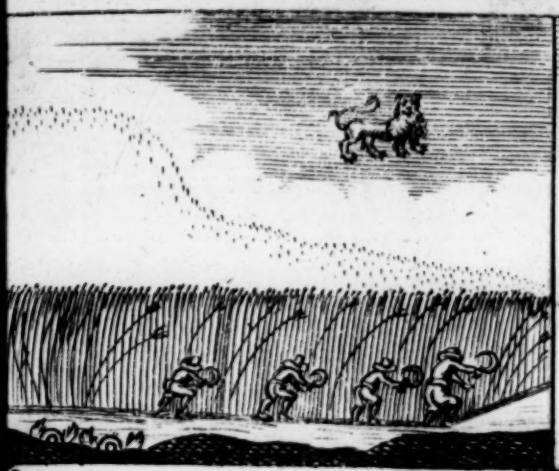

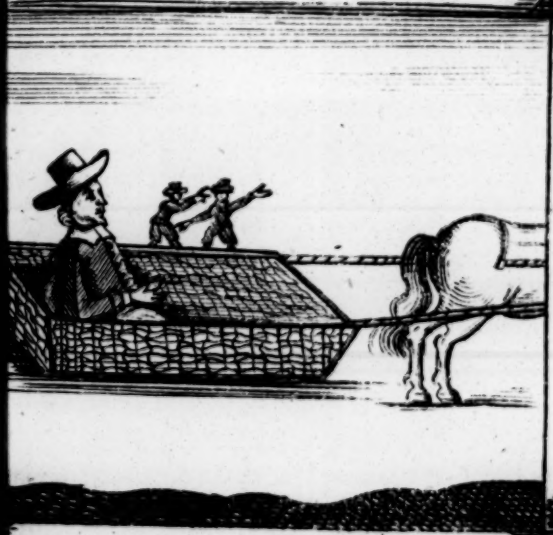

ΕΝΙΑΥΤΟΣ ΤΕΡΑΣΤΙΟΣ

MIRABILIS ANNUS,

OR

The year of Prodigies and Wonders, being a faithful and impartial Collection of several Signs that have been seen in the Heavens, in the Earth, and in the Waters; together with many remarkable Accidents and Judgments befalling divers Persons, according as they have been testified by very credible hands; all which have happened within the space of one year last past, and are now made publick for a seasonable Warning to the People of these three Kingdoms speedily to repent and turn to the Lord, whose hand is lifted up amongst us.

Isaiah 5. 11, 12. *Wo to them that rise up early in the morning that they may follow strong drink, that continue until night till wine inflame them, and the Harp and the Viol, the Tabret and the Pipe, and Wine are in their feasts, but they regard not the Work of the Lord, neither consider the operation of his hands,* Psal. 111. 2. *The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein,*

Revel. 15. 4. *Who shall not fear thee O Lord, and glorifie thy Name, for thou onely art Holy, for all Nations shall come and worship before thee, for thy judgments are made manifest.*

Omnia hæc signa sunt imminentis iræ Dei quam necesse est quoquo modo possumus ut & annunciemus & prædicemus & deprecemur, *Tertul. ad Scap p.* 89.

Quod signum erit iræ Dei impiis, erit signum perfectæ Redemptionis filiis Dei, *Zanch. de oper. Dei, Tom.* 3 *p.* 335.

Printed in the Year 1661.

The Preface.

THe moſt *natural* and *frequent* works of *God*, ought to be the daily ſubjects not onely of the ſerious *conſideration* but *admiration* alſo of every ſober Chriſtian; *Eliphaz* in *Job* reckons the ordinary Occurrences of natural cauſes as the rain &c. amongſt the *great unſerchable and marvellous things of God*, for indeed nothing leſſe then the admirable, infinite, and tranſcendent Wiſdom, Power, and Majeſty of the mighty *Jehovah* is clearly manifeſted, in the moſt *common* and *uſual* conſtitutions of nature, the whole World being nothing elſe but Gods Book in Folio, and every Creature and Providence as a ſeveral page, in which we may plainly read *his eternal Power and God-head*; or like to *Jacobs* ladder, the top in Heaven and the foot on Earth. Job. 5. 9, 10. Rom. 1: 20.

Yea God many times appears greateſt in the ſmalleſt things, he is more eminently ſeen in the activity of the ſouls of the *Dwarf* and *Ant* then of the *Giant* and *Elephant*

Some of the Ancients have affirmed, that the ordinary productions of nature are more *wonderful* then thoſe things which do obtain a more formal denomination of *miracles*, making the multiplication of a grain of corn in the earth, a greater wonder then the multiplying of the *five loaves* by our Saviour, *wherewith he fed five thouſand*. If God then had limited the diſcoveries of himſelf to the world in theſe common wayes and means, he had not *left himſelf without witneſſe*, but all men certainly *without excuſe*, whiles in defiance of theſe *impregnable* proofs and demonſtrations of a *Deity*, they do remain wilfully ignorant, and bruiſhly immerſe themſelves in the ſtinking lake of an *Atheiſtical* and *Diabolical* converſation. But that God might adde to this way of manifeſting himſelf the utmoſt degree of complement and perfection, and that he might alſo *ex abundanti* prepare a *ſovereign* and *ſufficient* antidote againſt deſperate Atheiſm and Irreligion amongſt rational creatures, he doth many times beyond, above, yea ſometimes contrary to the ordinary courſe of things, *make his wonderful works to be remembred*; he doth indeed ſet bounds to nature, and will not ſuffer it at any time *to overflow its banks*, but he will not limit himſelf, for *whatſoever the Lord pleaſes that doth he in Heaven and in Earth, in the Seas and in all deep places*, he will ſometimes *do great things paſt finding out, yea, and wonders without number*. Upon this account it is that the *Pſalmiſt* contemplating the wonderful *ſigns* and *judgments* by which God did make way for the compleat deliverance of his People out of *Egyptian* bondage, breaks forth into this triumphant challenge, *Who is ſo great a God as our God? Thou art the God that doeſt wonders, thou haſt declared thy ſtrength amongſt the People*. Now it is the ſcope and deſign of the enſuing *Narrative* to repreſent God unto the world in his *high* and *eminent* capacity as a *wonder-working God*, and to that purpoſe we could not but record and publiſh ſome of thoſe *μεγάλεια τῦ Θεῦ*, which by impartial and diligent hands have been faithfully gleaned out of ſeveral parts of the Nation, and are here put together under their proper heads, according

Mirabilior eſt granī in terra multiplicatio quam illa quinque panum. *Auguſt. tract. 24. in Johan.* John 6 9, 10, 11. Acts 14. 17.

Pſal. 111. 4. Pſal. 135, 6. Job 9, 10.

Pſalm 77, 14.

to their respective dates, whereunto we have also added a few suitable Parallels to some of them. as we have been furnished with them from our most Authentick Historians, and as we had opportunity and leisure to find them out.

Licet autem multa in his inveniuntur quæ rationem ac fidem hominum excedant, &c.
Testis tamen mihi erit Deus, qui admirabilis est in operibus suis, ac ipsa etiam coram eodem conscientia salva qua affirmare possum me nihil confinxisse, sed omnia aut ipse oculis meis ætate nostra vidi aut ab amicis indubitatæ tamen fidei explorare potui
Lycost. de Prod. Epist. nuncupat.
Mat. 2, 2.
Luke 2. 8, 9, &c.
Dan. 5. 8.
Dan. 12. 10.

But before we proceed a step further, (that we might take away all occasion of mis-belief from any that may seek occasion) we do make the same solemn *protestation* which *Lycosthenes* did in the like case, *before God, Angels, and Men*, that we have not *feigned* any one of the particulars here inserted, nor so much as a *Circumstance* relating to any of them, but have *faithfully* and *impartially* published them as they were communicated to us from *credible persons*, whose proofs also we scanned and weighed to the uttermost, and received ample satisfaction in the validity thereof, before we made them publick, casting away many things, which we could not but judge *probable*, because not satisfied in the *certainty* of them; Neither let the *paucity* of the *Spectators* of many of the particulars be a stumbling stone to any, seeing only the *Magi* saw *the Star that led to Christ*, and a few *Shepheards* the *Heavenly Host* which proclaimed the birth of our *Saviour*, and upon the credit of their Testimony both those things are inserted in the sacred story. And now having given (as we hope) a *satisfactory* account in the Premises, we shall go on to tell the *Reader* that the *signs* and *Prodigies* contained in the ensuing Discourse, are in themselves like the *hand-writing* upon the the wall in *Belshazzars Pallace*, which the *South Sayers, Astrologers*, and *Chaldeans* could neither understand nor read, but the *Saints* may with Gods *Heifer* come to know his *Riddles*, *The wise shall understand.*

The things that are here presented to the Reader are *various*, and *remarkable*, the particulars seen in the Heavens are in number fifty four, those in the Earth twenty three, those in the Waters ten, the Accidents and Judgements befalling several persons twenty seven, all these, which have been collected but by a *few hands*, (there being we are perswaded many more which have not come to our knowledge) have happened within the compasse of *a year*, the like we believe a *whole age* hath scarce produced in times past, the Lord therein shewing great mercy and compassion to the people of these Nations, that though he hath suffered this year so many *hundreds*, if not *thousands* of our able godly, *preaching Ministers* to be *removed into corners*, yet the defect of their Ministry hath been *eminently* supplied by the *Lords* immediate preaching to us from *Heaven*, in the great and wonderful works of his Providence, which *Eusebius* calls τὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ κηρύγματα *Gods Sermons*, which this year come to more then two in a week according to the foregoing *calculation*

Eusеb. Eccles. Hist. Lib 3. cap. 8.
Numb. 17, 10.
In *Germany*, as their wickedness and debauchery did increase, so did the prodigies & strange supernatural accidents multiply exceedingly, *Hist Iron Age p. 66.*

And if (according to the opinion of learned men, such as *Luther, Voetius, Weems*, &c.) *Prodigies* and signs are *especially* for the sakes of *wicked and ungodly men*, *Aarons Rod budded for a token against the Rebels*. Then from the vast disproportion of their number this year, to what they were for many years together in the times foregoing, we may easily guesse at the prodigious increase of the most brutish prophanesse, Atheism, uncleannesse, murders, blasphemy and superstition that *this single year* hath produced, beyond all the presidents which former times have acquainted us with And surely by these hainous

and

and unparralel'd enormities, the *Jealous* God hath been exceedingly provoked, and by his remarkable and strange Signs in the Heavens, the Earth, and the Waters, doth in a most dreadful manner Alarm the ungodly world; they are not onely the *Messengers*, but *Harbingers* also of Divine indignation, to such as are *obstinate* in their wickedness, *who say in their hearts there is no God*, and lead a life worse then that of the people in the time of *Noah*.

We shall not dare to be positive in a particular application of all, or any of the portenta mentioned in the following History, knowing it would relish of too much boldnesse and presumption to peep into the Ark of Divine Secrets. We shall in this case subscribe to the judgement of the Learned *Voetius*, who accounts it no lesse then a *Nefas* to apply Prodigies to particular persons, *sine extraordinario, & peculiari* which we do not in the least pretend unto; therefore according to the caution given by the same Author, we shall avoid *Cacoethes illud* as he calls it, and conclude with *Balduin*, *præstat ergo talia in silentio & spe committere Deo quam divinando temeritatem prodere*; *It is better in silence and hope, to leave things of this nature to God, then by attempting to prognosticate any thing from them, thereby to betray our own rashnesse*. Onely we shall be bold to hint thus much, that accidents of this kind do protend the futurition or manifestation of some things as yet not existent or not known, which usually carry in them some kind of agreement and assimulation to the Prodigies themselves, as (according to the opinion of some learned men) *the raining of bloud* may signifie much slaughter, *the noise of Guns and the apparition of Armies in the Air* wars and commotions, *great inundations*, popular tumults and insurrections, yet still we must know that God is unsearchable in his wayes, and our most *critical* and *exact* observations, together with our best experiences will not capacitate us *fully* to trace him through the Maze and Labyrinth of his providences, his way being as *Solomon* speaks, *like the way of a ship in the sea*. However, that the following discourse might be the more profitable (so far as the Scriptures with the modest conjectures of the most sober amongst the learned will warrant us) we shall here briefly insert a few of those *general* things which commonly prove the *issues and events* of such *prodigious apparitions* as the ensuing History gives us an account of,

Voetius de signis, &c. page 9019.

Voet. de sig. &c. page 930.

Baldvinus lib. 3. *cas.* p. 813.

prov. 30. 19.

1. They do usually sore signifie some remarkable *changes* and *revolutions* which bring with them very sad *calamities* and *distresses* to the generality of the people, amongst whom they happen; *our Saviour* himself shews us a *necessary* connexion between *signs in the Sun and in the Moon, and in the stars, and upon the earth distresse of Nations with perplexity*. Great are the influences which these things have in a natural way upon States and Kingdoms in the world, it being a received Maxim amongst the meer *Naturalists*, that some considerable mutations and concussions are the usual products of them, but certainly their vertue and Operation is far greater as they are *ordained of God* to portend and signifie the most dreadful and important Revolutions of his providence. These did our *Saviour himself* institute and appoint as the certain Signs and immediate forerunners of that sore destruction so often threatned, and at last so severely executed by *Titus Vespasian* upon *Jerusalem*. Great honour is likewise given to them

Luke 21. 25. συνοχὴ ἐθνῶν ἐν ἀπορίᾳ Anxietas gentium in consilii inopia, *Beza*.

them by Christ in that he reckons them amongst the *Portenta* and *Præsages* of his second coming. We shall therefore conclude this with those Instances which the *Reverend* and *Learned* Dr *Jackson* hath furnished us with, *viz.* That Testimony of *Herodotus* (who lived before *Alexander the Great*, but after *Cyrus* had taken the City *Babylon*) his words (as they are quoted by the said *Author*) are these *quoties ingentes sunt eventuræ Calamitates vel Civitati, vel Nationi solent Signis præannunciari, extraordinary calamities whether such as befall Cities or peculiar Signiories are alwaies fore-shewen by some sign or other.* His other instance is that of *Machiavel*, of whom he saies, that he was a man as free from *Superstition* or vain *Credulity* as any other Writer that hath been born and bred amongst *Christians*; yet he out of his own Reading and Experience hath made the same induction with *Herodotus*, but somewhat more full, *ut causam faciè me confitebor ignorare, ita rem ipsam cum ex antiquis, tum novis exemplis agnoscere oportet, & confiteri omnes magnos motus, quicunque aut urbium aut regioni evenerunt, vel a conjecturis vel a revelatione aliquâ Prodigiis, aut Cœlestibus Signis prædici aut prænunciari solere, As I must needs confesse my self ignorant of the cause, so the thing it self I cannot but acknowledge to be true, both from antient and modern examples, that the motions and changes which have at any time happened either to Cities or Countryes, have still been foretold or pre-declared either by some Southsayers, or else by some discoveries from Prodigies or Signes in the Heavens*; And afterwards the same *Machiavel* affirms, that the severall *Changes* which happened in *Italy* in his time, were still presaged by divers remarkable *Signes* and *Prodigies*, whereof he gives particular instances in the Chapter before cited.

Dr. *Jacksons* Sermon preached before K. *Cha.* 1. on *Luke* 13, 5. page 9.

Dr. *Jackson ibid* p. 10.

Machi. disp. de Republica, lib. 1 cap. 56. page 229.

Ibid page 230. Et ne procul petitis exemplis hoc demonstrare velle videar domesticis utar, &c. A Signis Cæli hujus modi paveant impii, &c. Voet de Signis page 527.

2 They do bode very much misery and calamity to the *prophane* and *wicked* part of the World (except athrough and seasonable repentance and turning to God do intervene) the *Mene Tekel* on the Wall did signifie evil to *Belshazzar*, who though he knew all that God had done to his *Father*, yet *humbled not his heart, but lifted up himself against the Lord of Heaven*, and by his *presence at least* did keep up and encourage *drunken and debauched meetings*, wherein the *Vesse's of the Temple* (the spoiles of the Lords people) were *prophaned*, the *High* God *blasphemed*, and *the Gods of Gold, and of Silver, of Brass, of Iron, of Wood and of Stone were praised* and magnified; and sayes the Text in *that same hour came forth fingers of a mans hand*, &c. So that God by a prodigie doth sharply reprove the debauchery of this King and his Concubines, with the rest of his *Associates*, and thereby also declares the sudden period and determination of his *Kingdom*.

Dan. 5 22, 23.
Dan. 5, 3, 3.
Inconsilio Vini. Abenezra.
Verse 4.
Verse 5.

But amongst the *Hellish* rout of prophane and ungodly men, let *especially* the *Oppessors* and *Persecutors of the* True *Church* look to themselves, when the hand of the Lord in strange Signes and Wonders is lifted up among them; for *then* let them know assuredly *that the day of their Calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste*. The totall and finall overthrow of *Pharoah* and the *Ægiptians* (those cruell Task-Masters and Oppressors of the Israelites) did bear date not long after the *Wonderfull* and *Prodigious Signes* which the Lord had shewn in the midst of them; Neither could the Nation of the *Jews* (*who were both the betrayers and murderers of the Lord of Life and Glory*), and did persecute his *Apostles* and *Disciples from City*

Verse 18.

Deut. 31, 35.

to City) escape those sad and dreadfull effects of the *Signes* and *Prodigies* which Christ long before foretold and forewarned them by, and were indeed according to our Saviours Predictions, the doleful Messengers of the approaching ruine both of *themselves*, their *City* and *Temple*: O that therefore all the Enemies of *Sion* (who make it their work to *tread the Holy City under foot*) would betimes before the effects of this years wonders take place against them, truly repent, and be ashamed of all their enmity against the faithfull Servants of the *most High God*, least his wrath break forth *and there be none to deliver*. Rev. 11. 2.

3 They do usually Prognosticate very much good to the *Sober* and *Religious* part of the World, that which severely threatens the ruine and destruction of others, doth clearly portend the security and preservation of their interest.

Prodigia benefica credentibus, malefica & horrifica incredulis. Corn. A. Lap. Com. In Joel 2, 30.

Those signall Predictions of *Pharoahs* and the *Ægyptians* overthrow did yet assure the *Israelites* of *their* speedy deliverance and departure *out of the House of bondage*; Therefore when the *Psalmists* had largely discoursed of those *Signes* which God did shew in *Ægypt*, he concludes with these words, *he made his own people to go forth like Sheep, and guided them in the Wilderness like a Flock, and he led them on safely so that they feared not, but the Sea over-whelmed their enemies*, yea the very first discovery that ever the Lord made of saving that *People*, was by the *Prodigie* of a burning bush. *David* also speaking of great *Earthquakes*, sad and dark *Eclypses*, terrible *Storms*, strange *Fiery Meteors* in the Heavens, dreadfull *Thunders* and *Lightnings*, *&c.* makes the end of all this to be nothing else but his own *Deliverance*; Therefore he sayes in the close of all, *he sent from above, he took me, he drew me out of many Waters, he delivered me from my strong Enemy and from them that hated me, for they were too strong for me.* The greatest blessing likewise that ever the Church received, *viz.* (the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ (who came into the world on purpose *to save his people from their sins*) was ushered in with the appearance of a strange and unusuall *Star* in the *East*, whereof *Chalcidius* in his Comment upon *Plato's Timæus* takes great notice because it signified the coming down of a *God* in favour to the Salvation of men, as Dr. *Hammond* hath well observed in his *Comment* on *Mat.* 2. 2. Those very *Signes* also which according to *Christs* prophesie did point at the miserable *Desolation* of *Jerusalem*, did notwithstanding presage the giving of the *Holy Ghost* to the *Apostles*, and the first *Gospel Church*, as *Peter* himself affirms in his *Apology* for the *Disciples*. And indeed these strange *Prodigies* were long before by the Prophet *Joel* prophesied of, as the *Harbingers* of that new and Spiritual dispensation under the Gospel according to his *excellent connection*, *I will powre out my Spirit upon all flesh, And I will shew wonders in the Heavens, &c.* Which *Peter* in the forementioned *Scripture* makes to be fulfilled in that *wonderfull* effusion of the *Spirit* on the day of *Penticost*.

Exod. 3, 2. 7. Sam. 2. 22. Chap. Verse 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. Verse 17, 18. Mat. 2. 2.

Est quoque alia venerabilior & sanctior Historia quæ perhibet ortu stellæ cujusdam insolitæ non morbos moresque prenunciatos, sed descensum Dei venerabilis ad humanæ servationis reremque mortaliem gratiam, *&c.* Vid. Dr. Hammond In Mat 2. 2. Chap.

Yea further, our Lord *Jesus Christ himself*, when he speaks of the severall *Signes* that shall preceed his *second coming*, (at the sight whereof *all the Tribes of the Earth shall mourn*) yet encourages *his people to lift up their heads with joy, because their Redemption draweth nigh*

Acts 2, 14, 15, 16. Ioel 2. 28, 29, 30. Mat. 24. 30. Luke 21. 28.

Upon which words *Luther* thus descants, *behold saies he this notable Instructer,*

Instructor, who knoweth better how to expound Signes and Tokens to come, then any Southsayer or Astrologer, they onely prognosticate terrible and horrible events thereof, but he (unto whom nothing is unknown doth foretel them to be tokens of all goodnesse to his people; And again in the same Sermon he observes that the happy and comfortable issues of those *Signes* to the *Godly*, our *Saviour* doth plainly interpret by the *Parable* and *Similitude* which he makes use of to that purpose. 'Behold saies he 'the fig tree, and all the Trees when they now shoot forth, ye see 'and know of your own selves that Summer is now nigh at hand, '&c. Doubtless *saies Luther on these words*, this is a notable exposition 'which I my self could never invent, nor apply to this purpose, for 'whoever heard that the darkning of the Sun and Moon the de-'struction of the Heaven and Earth, should be likened to the shooting 'out of buds, and the blosoming of trees; I would think rather that 'these things should be likened to a rough, sharp, and very hard 'Winter, which with intolerable cold destroyeth and killeth all 'Fruits, and whatsoever groweth upon the Earth. But our Savi-'our Christ (of all others the best interpreter and expounder of his 'Word) expoundeth these Signes after another sort, better to our 'comfort and Consolation; So that now if we see the Sun and the 'Moon darkned, the Water and the Winds stormy and tempestu-'ous, he teaches us then to say thanks be to God, for now the plea-'sant Summer is at hand, now we see the spring of the leaf in some 'trees, and other some to shoot out their buds, &c. Upon this consideration therefore let all the Lords faithfull people observe the Prophets Counsel, *not to be dismayed at the Signes of Heaven*; But rather with the *Psalmist* let us *Triumph in the works of Gods hands*, and abound in Thanksgiving and Rejoycing, for *that his name is near his wondrous works declare*.

Luthers 1 Serm. on Luke 21. 25, 26, &c. page 27, There is also a second Sermon of Luthers on the same Text, now lately translated and published, in which he much encourages the Godly, To hope and rejoyce in the Lord, when his Signes and wonders do appear, that Sermon is well worth the Reading. Verse 29, 30. Sermon ibid page 66, 67.

Jer. 10. 2 A Signis Cælorum ne consternemini, Jun. Psal. 92. 4. Psal 75, 1. Ad liberandum invocantem. *Aben Ezra*. Joel 2. 31, 32.

Let us comfort our selves with this, that where God doth threaten *that the Sun shall be turned into darkness, and the Moon into blood*, &c. In the very next verse he is pleased to make a gracious promise, *That whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved; For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance as the Lord hath sayed, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call*. But we shall no longer detain the Reader from the sight and perusal of the ensuing *Collection*, which we desire to accompany with our prayers, that all who read it may lay to heart the things contained in it, and take heed they *despise not the works of the Lord, nor the operation of his hands*, least according to his threatning *he destroy them and not build them up*, but let every one rather from these things be convinced, that upon us the ends of the world are come, and that God is now making hast *to consummate* his *whole* work in the earth, and to prepare the way for his Son *to take unto himself his great power and reign*; All these prodigies being according to our Saviours own prediction, but præludiums to that signal and last revolution which makes way for *the new Heavens and the new Earth, wherein dwells Righteousnesse, And if we look for such things, let us be diligent that we may be found of him in Peace, without spot, and blameless*.

Psalm 28. 5. 2 Peter 3. 13. Verse 14.

July 25, 1661. Amen.

Several PRODIGIES *and* APPARITIONS *ſeen in the Heavens, from* Auguſt *the* 1. 1660. *to the Latter End of* May, 1661.

I.

SEveral Perſons who were reaping Wheat in a Field about a quarter of a Mile from *Hertford*, near ſix of the Clock in the Evening, *Auguſt* 1. 1660. eſpied two Suns in the Firmament, the One Weſt, the Other Northerly at ſome diſtance each from other; they were as they judged of equall height and bigneſs, and beams did iſſue from both onely that more Northerly ſhone not ſo bright as the other. They continued in their view near half an hour, and then were both overſhadowed by a cloud. This is Teſtified by honeſt credible perſons who were eye-witneſſes.

Two Suns ſeen near *Hertford*, *Aug.* 1 1660.

Naturaliter portendunt & prænuntiant Pluvias. Zanch. *de operibus Dei* p. 348

Parhelius eſt magnum pluviarū ſignum. Her. Triſmeg. l. 5. p. 473.

Ex Dei autem ordinatione varia eius Judicia, vel Bella, vel Fames, &c. Zanc *ibid.*

Pucerus, *Lib. Metorolog* p. 340.

* As it happened *Anno* 1156. 2 Suns appear'd, prognoſticating the death of *Tho. Becket* Arch. B of *Cant* an inſolent proud Prelate. *Lycoſt.* p. 412.

Theſe παρήλιοι, as the Greeks call them, do naturally portend much moiſture and rainy weather.

*But God Ordaines them (as ſome Learned men conceive) to ſignifie ſeveral Judgements, as War, Famine, and Peſtilence. Some do affirm, they portend the *fall of Great Men from their power, who rule with pride and diſdain. They alſo ſignifie (as others do con-*

jecture) *diſturbances and Innovations in matters of Religion.*

There were two Suns ſeen in England *at one time ſhining at a good diſtance from each other in the beginning of Queen* Mary's *reign: See* Bakers *Chron.* p. 346.

Several Suns were ſeen near Prague, *about the time of the dreadful Perſecution which the Proteſtants ſuſtained there from the hands of the bloody Papiſts. See* Bohem. *Hiſt.* p. 355.

II.

The likeneſs of a Ship ſeen in the Air at *Stratford Bow* near *London.*

IN the ſame Month alſo was ſeen at *Stratford Bow* near *London*, the likeneſs of a great Ship in the Air, which by degrees leſſened till it came to be as ſmall as a mans Arm, but kept its form all the while, and at laſt diſappeared. This is teſtified by an able Miniſter living not far from the place; who received the Information from the Spectators themſelves.

III.

A rain-bow of a blood-red colour ſeen before Sun-riſing. at *Southo* in *Huntingtonſhire.*

ABout the ſame time at *Southo* in *Huntingtonſhire*, was ſeen before Sun-riſing, in the Weſt and by North, a Rain-bow of a blood-red colour, it gave forth brightneſs, as if the Sun had been riſing in that part of the Heavens; after it had continued for a while, a great red cloud by degrees ſwallowed it up. This is teſtified by a very credible perſon who lived not far from *Southo*, and did ſpeak with ſeveral who were eye-witneſſes.

IV.

Seven Stars ſeen to fall down perpendicularly.

A Gentleman of good quality, and an Officer of Eminency in the late Kings Army, and now a Juſtice of Peace in his Country, having occaſion to be at *London* about the Month of *September*, 1660. as he was going

ing over *Smithfield* about ten of the Clock at night to his Lodgings in *Bartholomews* cloſe, perceiving ſeveral people looking up into the Heavens, did himſelf alſo look up, & eſpied towards the South-weſt a bright Star of a more then ordinary bigneſs, and encompaſſed with ſix leſſer Stars; whilſt he with ſeveral others, were with ſome Admiration beholding them, they all fell down perpendicularly and vaniſhed. This Gentlemans Lady being at the ſame time in her Lodgings and looking out at the window, expecting her Husbands coming, ſaw the ſame thing, with all the circumſtances of it: a perſon of very good credit received this Information from both their mouths.

It is a thing rarely heard of, that ſuch exhalations ſhould move perpendicularly, but rather obliquely, which is their natural motion. *Vid. Herm. Triſmeg. l.5.p.518.*

V.

AT *Hull* about two of the Clock in the morning, *Octob.*3.1660. the Souldiers upon the Guard at the South Blockhouſe, ſaw the Appearance of a great Body of Fire at South-eaſt, the form of it (to uſe the Spectators own terms) was as big at one end as a great Sheet, from which went a narrow ſtream of fire, which they judged to be many yards long; it gave ſuch a light, that according to their report (though immediatly before and after it was very dark) yet they could ſee to read a very ſmal print, or take up a pin from off the ground; this continued about the ſpace of half an hour, and then vaniſhed.

A great body of fire ſeen at *Hull Octob.*3. 1660.

The ſame morning alſo one Travelling from *Lincolnſhire* towards *Hull*, ſaw a very great light in the sky, whereby he could perfectly diſcern his way, though before it was exceeding dark; this upon his arrival at *Hull* that day, he affirmed to divers perſons there. And the whole Relation is ſignified by Letters from ſeveral eminent Men in *Hull* who ſpake with the eye-witneſſes, as alſo by ſome Inhabitants in *London*, who upon occaſion have been at *Hull* ſince that time, and there from very good hands have received credible and ſatiſ-

factory Information concerning the premiſes.

VI.

A Rain-bow ſeen between 11 and 12 of the clock at night, *Octo.* 5. 1660

OCtober 5. 1660. between 11. and 12. of the clock at night, was ſeen near the New Artillery ground a very fair Rain-bow with the uſual colours in it, that did ſeem to ſtand directly over the Moon, which at that time did ſhine extraordinary bright. The Information we received from a very credible Perſon who was an eye witneſs.

Pli. Nat. Hiſt. l. c. 59 *Zanc.* ſays that this *Iris Lunaris* differs from the other in reſpect of the colour; for in this he ſayes there is but *unus tantum color albus nimirum. vid. Zanch. de operibus Dei*, p. 353. He ſays it portends *longam tempeſtatē aurumq; inſtabilē*, *ibid.* p. 356.

Pliny *makes it to be an impoſſible thing in nature, that a Rain-bow ſhould be at any time ſeen in the Night, though he confeſſeth that* Ariſtotle *doth affirm, that once ſuch a thing happened, but it was when the Moon was at Full. But if what* Ariſtotle *ſays were true*, (*which* Pliny *much queſtions*) *yet ſtill what hath been above related concerning the Rain bow ſeen in the night when the Moon was not at the Full, muſt needs be acknowledged to be no extraordinary thing: the meaning* and import whereof, the Lord may in due time diſcover; which we pray that he will turn for good to all that tremble at his Word and Works.

VII.

A ſtrange Comet ſeen at *Hertford*, *Octob.* 11. 1660.

A Perſon of very good note and credit living at *Hertford*, awaking about 4 of the clock in the morning, *Octob.* 11. 1660. perceived a flaſhing like fire againſt his window, and fearing ſome houſe near him had been on fire, he immediately aroſe and went to his window, and looking up perceived a Star about the bigneſs of the palm of his hand, it had a dusky Circle about it, two ſtraiks near half a yard long a piece went through the midſt of it, which both above and below did ſend forth continually great Flaſhes of Fire; it ſtood directly North and South, and on the South ſide of it, was a point

a point about half a quarter of a yard long, this continued for ſome hours and then diſappeared; it was ſeen alſo by ſeveral other credible Perſons at *Hertford*, from whom this Relation comes.

VIII.

MUch about the ſame time was ſeen by ſeveral perſons neer *Hornſy*, a Flame of fire in the form of a Dart; which according to the apprehenſions of the Spectators hung directly over the City of *London*.

A Meteor in the form of a Dart, ſeen hanging over *London*.

This is by the Philoſopher called *Bolis*. *Vid. Magiri. Phyſo.* l. 4. c. 2.

IX.

IN *Woodſtreet*, *London*, upon the 12. of *Octo.* 1660. about four of the clock in the afternoon, was ſeen by ſeveral of the Inhabitants there, a fiery Meteor in the form of a Ship ſtreamer, or, as others apprehended, of a Beeſome, with the great end formoſt about two yards in length; it paſſed with a very ſwift motion from Weſt to Eaſt; And as ſome of the ſpectators do affirm, it made a great noiſe as it paſſed by; immediately upon it followed another of the ſame form, but not of the ſame bigneſs. The information comes from eye-witneſſes.

2 Meteors like a Ship-ſtreamer, or a Beeſom ſeen in *Woodſtreet*, *Oct.* 12. 1660.

Such a prodigious ſign in this Form, though of longer continuance, appeared in Anno 1550. *when the Perſecution began to wax hot in* Scotland *againſt the Profeſſors of the Truth. Vid. Clarkes* Prodigies, *pag.* 490.

X.

AT *Shenley* in *Hertford-ſhire*, (*Octob.* 17. 1660. being the day wherein Colonel *Scroop*, Col. *Jones*, and ſome others were Executed at *Charing Croſs*) was ſeen in the Aire towards the Evening, the Sky being very clear, the appearance of five naked Men exceeding bright and glorious, moving very ſwiftly, and after a little

Five naked men ſeen in the Air at *Shenley*, *Octob.* 17.

little time a great Hill intercepted the ſight of them. The Report of this was received from an Eye-witneſs, who is not in the leaſt ſuſpected to be a Phanatique, but hath given evident proof of the contrary; he doth conſtantly affirm the Truth of it, and offers to confirm it by his Oath.

XI.

A bright Star appearing at noonday over the Quarters which were ſet up upon *Algate*.

NOt long after this, *viz.* the ſame day when the Quarters of the ſeveral Executed perſons were ſet upon the Gates of the City, there appeared at Noon-day a bright Star over *Algate*, for two or three hours together, and continued ſo for four or five dayes; Of this many hundreds in the City paſſing that way, together with the adjacent Inhabitants were daily Spectators, during the time before ſpecified.

XII.

Seven Pillars of ſmoke ſeen aſcending from the *quarters* over *Biſhops-gate*.

ALſo at *Biſhops-gate* there appeared ſeven Pillars of ſmoke, (one whereof was bigger then the reſt) aſcending from the ſeven quarters, which were firſt ſet up upon the Gate; they reached up towards Heaven as high as the beholders could well diſcern.

Two quarters more having been ſince ſet upon the ſame Gate.

XIII.

Three Moons were ſeen at *Titſie in Surrey*, *Octob.* 29. 1660.

AT *Titſie* in *Surrey*, *Octob.* 29. 1660. about 8. or 9. of the clock in the Evening, there appeared in the Heavens three Moons of equal bigneſs and brightneſs at a little diſtance from each other: The Relation comes from eye-witneſſes, who were many, and ſome of good note and quality.

In Ireland, *Anno* 1342, *October* 11. *the Moon being* 11. *dayes old, were ſeen at* Dublin *two Moons.* Camb. Brit.

Brit. *Ireland*, p. 188. *Alſo in the moneth of* March, *Anno* 1551. *in the Yeer wherein the Duke of* Somerſet *was beheaded, and the Diſputes were in* Germany *about Religion, and the French made war with the Emperour, three Moons were ſeen together here in* England: The *like happened alſo* Annis 1644, 1645, 1646, 1647. The *like happened a little before the bloody Wars between the* Romans *and* Carthaginians *brake forth.* Livius *Hiſt.*

XIV.

THree perſons Inhabitants of *Auſty* in *Hertfordſhire* going before Day, *Octob.* 30. 1660. with Malt-horſes to *Ware* Market, were on a ſudden ſmitten with a great and terrible Flaſh of Lightning; after which the Air continued very light, and grew brighter and brighter, and they looking from whence this great Light ſhould come, ſaw, as they conceived, full Eaſt before them a very dreadful Fire, and concluded that ſome Houſe at *Meiſden* had been on Fire; but they having not riden much further perceived the fire in a great body to aſcend, and the Sky opening to receive it; and as it went up, three Stars one immediately after another fell down from it perpendicularly; and when they fell, the Earth ſeemed lighter then at any time by the brighteſt Moon-light: Some part of the body of fire which aſcended, remained yet in their view, and after a little ſpace it turned into the direct form of a ſicle with a handle, and afterwards it grew much like to a Syth, and continued in that form till the day light ſwallowed it up. The Spectators are very Credible Perſons from whom this Relation comes.

A fiery Meteor ſeen near *Miſden* in *Hertfordſhire*, from which did fall down perpendicularly three Stars, whereby the Earth was exceedingly enlightened. The Meteor afterwards turned into the form of a Sickle, and then into the Form of a Sythe.

The

XV.

A fiery Meteor in the form of a Dragon ſeen between *Hadham* and *Ware*, *Octob.* 30. 1660.

THe ſame Morning alſo ſome going before day with their Carts from about *Hadham* ſide in *Hertfordſhire* to *Ware*, ſaw a body of fire in the Sky, of divers colours like the Rain bow, which preſently turned into the perfect form of a Dragon, and immediately fell down to the ground, and by the fall of it the Earth was ſo lightned, that they could have ſeen a penny upon the ground, as the Spectators themſelves do affirm, from whom we have this whole Relation.

This kind of Meteor is called by the Philoſopher, Draco Volans. *And about the time of the* Bohemian *Perſecution,* viz. *in the year* 1624. *ſuch a fiery Dragon was ſeen through all* Bohemia *and* Sileſia, vid. Bohe. *Hiſt.* p. 356. *The like alſo was ſeen in* Scotland, November 25, 1656. *which was confirmed by ſeveral Letters from thence at that time, a true and full deſcription of it; together with the Portends thereof you have in a Book called* Miraculum Signum Cœleſte, *page* 28, 29, *&c.*

XVI.

A body of Fire aſcending into the Air till it fixed it ſelf in the Sky like a Star, ſeen between *Hertford* and *London*, *Octob.* 30. 1660.

THe ſame morning likewiſe before Day when it was very dark, five Neighbours going from *Hertford* to *Loudon*, did alight by the way and walked to get themſelves a heat, and as they were getting up upon their Horſes again, there came a ſudden Flaſh of Fire, which made it ſo light, that they could perfectly diſcern, as at noon day, any thing upon the ground, their Horſes alſo ſeemed to be all on fire; but within a little ſpace this body of Fire roſe up again into the Aire, with a Tayl about a Pole long, and went Eaſtward, where at laſt it fixed it ſelf in the Sky like a Star.

Upon

XVII.

A Ball of fire was seen to come out of the Heavens and fell upon a Gentlemans house.
Another fell upon a Wood.
And a third upon the Ground.
These were seen *Oct.* 30 1660.

UPon the same morning very early, the Waggoner of *Wickham* in the County of *Bucks* came towards *London* with his Waggon and divers Passengers in it, about a mile from *Wickham* they all saw to their great afrightment, the Heavens open, and a large Ball of fire about the bigness (to use the Relaters own phrase) of a great Kittle, in a terrible manner descending and falling as they conceived upon a Gentlemans house near a quarter of a mile from them, and they verily thought, because the fire brake in pieces on the house, it had been set on fire by it, but afterwards they found it to be otherwise: immediately upon this they saw another ball of fire descending in the same manner with the former, which fell upon a Wood very near to the Road wherein they were travelling, and they conceived that the whole Wood had been in a flame: A third ball also came down and fell upon the Earth and was broken into several pieces; during this time which was about the space of half an hour the Air was exceeding light, so that the Passengers in the Waggon could perfectly discern each other, and see to read an ordinary Print, but immediately after it was as dark as before. This Relation comes from some of the aforesaid Passengers, and particularly from the Waggoner and his Wife.

XVIII.

A fiery Meteor with a Tail 30 yards long, seen between *Uxbridge* & *Brainford*, *Octob.* 30 1660.

SEveral persons on the same 30 of *October* going from *Uxbridge* to *Brainford* between 3 and 4 of the Clock in the morning, saw in the Sky a very great light standing East and West; that part towards the East was as broad as a very large Table; that part towards the West seemed to them to be a Tayle of about 30 yards long as near as they could guesse, it did so

enlighten the Air that they could ſee to read the ſmalleſt print. It continued till near break of day, and then divided in the middle, half went to the Eaſt, and half to the Weſt, and ſo by degrees diſapeared; ſeveral Inhabitants of *Uxbridge* in their journey to *Brainford* and others at home in their houſes were eye-witneſſes hereof, and did relate it to a Citizen of *London* a perſon of known worth and integrity, from whom we received the Information.

A Meteor much like this in Form was ſeen neer Briſtow *in the Month of* January, *Anno* 1648. *which is publiſhed in print by an able godly Miniſter in* London, *who received the information from an eye-witneſs.* Vid. *Clarks* Prod. *p.* 483.

XIX.

A great bright Star ſeen at *Yelden* in *Bedfordſhire*, *Octob.* 30. 1660.

AT *Yelden* in *Bedfordſhire* the ſame morning very early was ſeen a great Star which ſtood North-eaſt and South-weſt, it gave ſo great a light, that ſome Inhabitants there, who were up ſo ſoon that morning upon their occaſions could ſee to doe buſineſs in the houſe by the light of it; one Credible perſon there beheld it two hours together, and at laſt ſaw it turn into the perfect form of a Roman S, and then preſently it divided in the middle, and one half went to the North-eaſt and the other to the South-weſt, and ſo by degrees diſappeared. Two other perſons of Credit in *Northamptonſhire*, not many miles from *Yelden*, ſaw the ſame morning a very great Light in their Chamber which they much wondered at, becauſe it was not the time, for the Moon to ſhine, but they not riſing out of their beds ſaw not the Star as others did from whom this relation comes.

In the year 389. *a little before the* Scots *and the* Picts *invaded* Britain, *did ariſe in the North a great Star much*

much bigger then the Day-ſtar and ſhined ſome dayes together.

XX.

A Bout five of the Clock in the morning the ſame 30 of *Octob.* 1660. 2 perſons of Credit who live near *Pickadilla*, going over the Field by the Bell-man, heard a noiſe in the Air, as if a pound of Gunpowder had been fired; and looking up they ſaw a body of fire bigger then the Moon, from which there iſſued a Stream of Fire towards the Eaſt about a Flight-ſhot in length and five foot in bredth; there were alſo two ſhorter Streams of Fire iſſuing from the ſame body South-eaſt and South. This Relation comes from one of thoſe two perſons who were eye-witneſſes.

A fiery Meteor ſeen near *Pickadilla* a Flight-ſhot in length and 5 foot in bredth, *Octob.* 30. 1660.

XXI.

SEveral conſiderable perſons near *Harleſton* in *Norfolk* between four and 5 of the clock on the aforeſaid 30. of *October*, ſaw a very great Fire in the Air flaming every way and ſparkling exceedingly, it ſeemed to them to roll up and down in the Air: and it gave ſo great a light, that one of the Relaters ſaith, he could ſee to doe any work as well as if he had had many Torches by him. This fiery Meteor after a while, as the Spectators conceived, grew into the proportion and ſhape of a man, and continued ſo for an hour, and then by degrees diſappeared.

A fiery Meteor ſeen *Octob.* 30. 1660. near *Harleſton*, which grew into the proportion and ſhape of a Man, and then vaniſhed.

XXII.

TWo Inhabitants of *Ipſwich* travelling between 3 & 4 of the clock the ſame morning towards *Thwayt* ſaw very ſtrange and terrible Flaſhes of Lightning, and looking up they diſcerned in the Sky two great Balls of Fire, the one North-eaſt, which was the greateſt, the

A nother fiery Meteor ſeen between *Ipſwich* and *Thwayt* *Octob.* 30. 1660.

other South-weſt; the firſt glyding downward, divided it ſelf into many ſmall pieces ſparkling, and after a while gathered up it ſelf into a body again, and then turned into a Cloud of a blood-red Colour, and ſoon after vaniſhed. They were ſo intent upon this in the North-eaſt that they can give no account what became of that which appeared in the South-weſt. Theſe two laſt particulars we received information of from a very worthy perſon who had an account of them from the Spectators themſelves, men of repute and credit in the places of their habitation.

XXIII.

The appearance of 3 Heads ſeen in a bright Cloud between *Midhurſt* and *Chicheſter*.

ABout the ſame day an Inhabitant of *Midhurſt* in the County of *Suſſex* going to *Chicheſter* about 10 of the clock in the forenoon, beheld one end of a Cloud exceeding bright like to the Sun it ſelf, and preſently there appeared the likeneſs of a Head with well ſet hair, and by it immediately appeared another Head, and ſo a Third, but they all quickly vaniſhed away together.

XXIV.

A great Light covering the Ground for a Mile in compaſs, and then aſcending like a Pillar of Fire, in which appeared an Arm brandiſhing a Flaming Sword.

ABout the begining of *Novemb.* certain Tradeſmen going to *Thame* Faire, about two of the clock in the morning as they paſſed between the two *Wickhams* ſaw a very great Light upon the Ground, ſpreading it ſelf near a mile in compaſs, very dreadful and terrible to behold, inſomuch that many of them apprehended that the day of Judgment was come; Afterwards it gathered up into a Pillar of Fire, and therein they clearly diſcerned an Army brandiſhing a Flaming Sword.

XXV.

XXV.

Two Stars as big as the Moon ſeen conteſting each with other, and one of them did ſeem to pour down Blood & Fire ſucceſſively.

TWo Men coming from about *Avery Hatch* near *Ilford* in *Eſſex* towards *London*, very early in the morning, *Novemb.* 5. 1660. ſaw in the *South* weſt a fiery bright Cloud, which in a little time was diſperſed, and from under it appeared two Stars as big as the Moon, & to their apprehenſions they did with great violence contend each with other; and after they had conteſted a while on the Stars by degrees grew dimmer and leſſer, and the other brighter and larger, till at length one of them Totally diſappeared, the other continued in their ſight at leaſt two hours, a great part of which time they ſaw ſtreaming from it as they conceived ſucceſſively ſtreams of Fire and ſtreams of Blood, and (to uſe their own words) the blood ſtreamed from it as if it had been poured out of a Paylor Bucket. This Star afterwards by degrees leſſened till it came to the proportion of an ordinary Star, and ſo continued till they entred into *White-Chappel*. All this was received from the mouths of the Spectators by many perſons of Eminency in *London*, both that morning they came to Town, and at ſeveral times ſince.

XXVI.

A great Star of divers colours ſeen in *Spittle-fields*, *Novemb.* 6 1660. and at ſeveral other times.

SEveral Perſons in *Spittle-fields*, *November* 6. 1660. and ſo for many mornings together about ſeven of the Clock, have ſeen in the Heavens a very ſtrange Star much bigger then the Morning Star; thoſe who looked upon it through a Proſpective-Glaſſe (and amongſt them the perſon from whom we received the account was one) could eaſily diſcern it to be of three ſeveral Colours; on the one part it was blewiſh like the flaming of Brimſton, in the middle it was clear like the uſual colour of a Star, and on the oppoſite part it was like the Flame of a ſmoaking fire.

By

XXVII.

Fire appearing upon Horſes Heads and on Travellers Switches as they rode between *Hull* & *Beverly* in a great Storm of Thunder and Lightning, *Novemb.* 10. 1660.

BY Letters from perſons of very good Credit, Inhabitants of *Hull*, it is Certified, that on the 10. of *November* 1660. there was about ſix of the clock in the Evening, a very ſo e and dreadful Thunder and Lightning, ſome that were riding that Evening from *Beverly* to *Hull* and other places, thought that their Horſes heads and the ſticks in their Fellow-travellers hands had been of a light fire.

This is ſomewhat like to that which by Philoſophers is called *Ignis Lumbens*, which they ſay is *plane prodigioſum & ſine omni cauſa Phyſica. Magiri. Phiſ.* p. Lib. 4. cap. 2.

Alſo by other Letters out of *York-ſhire* from very good hands, we are aſſured that about the ſame time there hath been very ſore Thundring and Lightning to the great terror and amazement of the Inhabitants; whereof the more notice is to be taken, becauſe ſuch Tempeſts are not uſual at that ſeaſon of the year.

XXVIII.

Armies ſeen in the Heavens engaged in Fight againſt each other.

SEveral credible perſons, Inhabitants of *Horſham* in *Suſſex*, coming towards *London* very early in the morning, as they were riding through *Smithams bottom* near *Croyden*, on a ſudden ſaw a very great Light, and the Hill on their left hand appeared as if it had been all on a Flame: in a little time that great Light divided it ſelf into two diſtinct Lights, wherein ſeemed to them to be two diſtinct Armies engaging and puſhing one againſt the other; they beheld them in this poſture a very conſiderable ſpace of time till at laſt there fell an exceeding thick Fog which made it very dark, and the ſmell of the Fog was as the ſmell of Gun-

Gunpowder. This Relation was received by a Contributor to this Collection from an eye-witneſſe.

Prodigies like to this have at ſeveral times happened in many places, and the Events have been alwayes very ſignal and remarkable.

Thus did God forewarn the Jewes of the deſtruction of themſelves, their City and Temple which was effected not long after by Titus Veſpaſian. See *Joſeph. Lib.* 7. of the Jewiſh Wars, *Cap.* 12.

The like alſo appeared in England, Anno 1415. *not long before that famous Fight at* Agen-Court *in* France *wherein the* Engliſh *ſlew upon the place* 10000 French, *and took as many priſoners.* Vid. *Signum Cœleſte*, &c. p. 126.

About the ſame time alſo Pope Gregory *died*, ibid.

The great alteration of State and the proſecution of bloody Wars in Italy, *by* Charles *the* 8. *King of France, was portended and foreſignified (amongſt other things) by the apparition of great Armies of Men, joyning Battel over* Aretium *a Town in* Tuſcany *ſayes Mr.* Jackſon *in a Sermon of his before the late King* Charles, *Entituled,* The Signes of the time, on *Luke* 13. 5. *p.* 12.

In the Low Countries, Anno 1568. *Armies were often ſeen in the Heavens; and not long after the Prince of* Orange, *brought an Army into the Field againſt Duke* De Alva *in behalf of the Proteſtants, and through the bleſſing of God was inſtrumentall thereby to deliver that people from ſo cruel a Perſecuter* Strada.

The people in Germany *were often Spectators of the like Prodigies, and they were ſtill the Forerunners of ſome bloody Fights, Skirmiſhes, or Sieges, at or near thoſe places where they were firſt ſeen. Thus it happened at* Lint. 2. *in* Auſtria, *as you may ſee at large in the* Germ. *Prod.* p. 10. 11. *and ſo alſo in* Sileſia, ibid. p. 17. 18. *But more eſpecially in the year,* 1628. *at* Sunderborg *in* Pomerland *two Armies appeared in the Heavens, the one from the North the other from the South; they engaged againſt*

againſt each other till the Army from the North ſeemed totally to rout and deſtroy the other. About two years after, the Renowned Guſtavus Adolphus *King of* Sweden *landed his Army from the North near the place beforementioned, and not far from it did Engage with the Imperial Army, and totally vanquiſhed it.* Vid. Germ. *Prod.* P. 1.32.

The like was ſeen alſo June 18. 1631. *At* Aſherleben *in the lower* Saxony: *Not long after between the ſaid Town and* Tangermund, *the* Swedes *did great Execution upon the Imperialiſts; and ſo at ſeveral other times within that year to the almoſt utter deſtruction of* Tillyes *Gallant Army, which you may read at large in the* Germ. *Prod.* p. 44, 45, 46.

We our ſelves alſo in England *have of late times known this kind of Apparition, and by too ſad Experience felt the meaning of it. It is freſh in the memory of many, that in* Anno 1640. *not long before our unhappy civil Wars, Armies were ſeen in the Heavens divers times and in divers places by many diſcreet perſons of Quality, which, ſayes an Author, were looked upon as ſad preſages of the enſuing broils.* Baker *Chron.* pag 493, 494.

The coming in and the total defeating of Duke Hambletons *Army,* Anno 1648. *was clearly portended by the appearance in the Heavens of a Southern and Northern Army in* Yorkſhire, *and the* Northern *Armies being beaten by the other. The Truth whereof many yet alive can teſtifie.*

XXIX.

A great bright Star as big as the Moon ſeen in *Houndſditch*, *December* 1 1660.

AN honeſt Man an Inhabitant in *Hounſditch* near *Biſhopſgate*, affirms that on the firſt of *December*, 1660. about 5 of the Clock in the morning, he ſaw in the Eaſt a very bright Star as big as the Moon; he called up ſeveral of his Family to ſee it, who alſo were eye-witneſſes of it with himſelf; from whom immediately we received this Information. *XXX.*

XXX.

A great bright *Star* ſeen at *Stoke Newington*, *Decemb*, 5. 1660.

A Citizen of good note in *London*, having occaſion to ſtay all night, *December* 4. 1660 at *Stoke Newington*, in the Morning about 5 of the Clock, ſaw a very great light in his Chamber and being much amazed at it he a roſe out of his bed and went to the window, and looking out he ſaw towards the Eaſt a very great bright twinkling Star as big, according to his own relation, as many ſix Stars that he ever ſaw before, it ſhone ſo bright that he could have ſeen to read or do any other buſineſſe in his Chamber by the light of it; He beheld it a quarter of an hour, and being very cold returned to his bed again; This Relation we have from the Gentlemans own mouth.

In the year 1572. *there appeared in* Cathedra Caſſiopeæ *a large bright* Star *(though not ſo big as either of theſe two laſt mentioned) the effect whereof was felt the next year following in a very great darth of Corn, as alſo all other proviſions*, Baker. Chron. p. 422. *The Paralel.*

XXXI.

Several *Steeples* and Cathedrals ſeen burning in the Air, ſome ſubverted others torn irreparably, *&c.*

IT is Certified by a letter from a very good hand in *York-ſhire*, that ſix ſober diſcreet perſons being very early upon the Road ſaw a fiery apparition in the Air, wherein they diſcerned two or thee Steeples and ſeveral Cathedrals, ſome burning, others rent and torn irreparably, others ſubverted with the Pinnacles downwards, and by one of the Pinnacles ſtood an Angel with a flaming Sword.

XXXII.

A Steeple fired in the Air, and tumbled down with a Sword hanging at it. Another Steeple fired alſo, and tumbl'd down with a Pike hanging at it.

BY another letter alſo from a perſon of credit in *Yorkſhire* to an Eminent Citizen in *London*, it is certified that a little before the laſt great wind which hapned *Decemb.* 8. 1660. There was ſeen in *Bramma More* in *Yorkſhire* the form of a Steeple in the Sky

which preſently grew red, and then the Heavens ſeemed to open and great flaſhes of fire proceeded out and fired the Steeple, which preſently tumbled down with a long Croſs-hilted Sword hanging at it; Alſo at the ſame time and place was ſeen the form of a Church all on fire, which tumbled down as the other with a long Pike hanging at it.

XXXIII.

A ſtanding field of Corn ſeen in the Heavens near *Horſey Downes*, and Reapers coming forth to reap it.

ABout the latter end of *December* laſt at *Horſey Downs* between two and three a Clock in the morning, ſeverall credible perſons ſaw the Heavens open, and there appeared a ſtanding Field of Corn, and reapers coming forth to reap it with ſickles in their hands, and a Lyon ſtanding over the Reapers.

XXXIV.

A Sheet of fire mingled with blood, ſeen directly over *Pauls*, *Jan.* 14 1660.

ABout the 14 of *Jannuary* laſt, betwixt two and three of the Clock in the morning, there appeared a very great light over the City of *London*, ſome perſons of credit dwelling in *Pater noſter Row*, being up upon ſome occaſion ſo early that morning, went forth and ſaw as they have ſince related directly over *Pauls* a ſheet of fire mingled with blood, the ſpectators themſelves acquainted ſome of us herewith.

XXXV.

A fiery Sword over the Weſt-part of *London*, *Jan.* 22 1660.

AT *Hogſden* near *London Jan.* 22. 1660 in the Evening was ſeen by ſeverall honeſt diſcreet perſons, a very great light towards the South-weſt ſome of the Spectators thought that ſome part of the City of *Weſtminſter* had been on fire; After they had for a little ſpace of time viewed this fiery light, they plainly obſerved to come out of it a long white ſtreak in the form of a Sword pointing towards the Northweſt. This Relation we received from a very honeſt credible perſon an eye-witneſſe.

An

An apparition not altogether unlike this was ſeen over Jeruſalem *not long before the deſtruction of it by* Titus Veſpaſian, Joſeph, Hiſt. *of the Jewiſh wars*, Lib. 7. chap. 12. The Parale.

Over the City Bribrach *on the 6 of* March 1633. *in the Evening was ſeen in the Air a long fiery Sword; the next year* Guſtavus Horn *the* Swediſh *Field-Marſhall did defeat the Catholick Army, killed many, and took the ſaid City after the Inhabitants had been brought to miſerable extremities*, Vid. Germ. Prod p. 52, 53.

Such a Sword was ſeen over Rome *a little before it was taken by the* Goths, *and ſo great a ſlaughter made of the* Romans *as the like was never known in any age before*, Lycoſt. p. 286.

XXXVI.

AN Inhabitant in the Tower much about the ſame time, having occaſion to be out of his houſe about 12 of the Clock at Night ſaw a very great fire in the Air directly over the White Tower; He preſently called forth ſome others to behold it, who alſo were eye-witneſſes with him thereof, from one of whom we received this Information.

A Great fire ſeen in the Air over the White Tower.

XXXVII.

THere are probable reports of ſeveral other ſtrange Apparitions that were ſeen about the ſame time over the White Tower; But becauſe we have no Clear nor certain proof of them, we have omitted to inſert them, onely this is moſt true, that ſeveral inhabitants in the Tower, did in the months of *January* and *February* for ſeveral Evenings together ſee very ſtrange and unuſuall flaſhings of fire in the Air over *Covent Garden* and the parts adjacent.

Strange flaſhings of fire ſeen in the Air over *Covent Garden*.

XXXVIII.

A Blazing ſtar ſeen over *Weſtminſter.*

ABout the latter end of *January* and the beginning of *Feb.* 1660 was ſeen by divers credible perſons over *Weſtminſter* a blazing Star which continued ſeverall nights together; It is likewiſe moſt certainly true, that in the month of *October* and ſince hath been ſeen ſometimes in the Eaſt, ſometime in the South Weſt, ſometimes in the and Southweſt a Commet or blazing Star, between 3 and 4 of the Clock in the morning, this hath been obſerved by very many diſcreet & ſober perſons in and about *London*, as alſo in divers other places in this Nation.

The aralel.

In the year 1660 *a Commet or blazing Star appeared to the People in this Land, and not long after* Wil. *Duke of* Normandy *defeating King* Harold *and his Army, obtained the* Crown *of* England, Stow. Chron. p. 98, 99.

Upon that blazing Star and the effects thereof were made the following verſes.

A Thouſand ſix and ſixty years,
It was as we do read,
When that a Commet *did appear,*
And Engliſh *men lay dead,*
Of Normandy, *Duke* William *then,*
To England-*ward did ſail,*
Who conquered Harold *and his men,*
And brought this Land to bail.

ibid. p. 101.

In the year alſo 1401 *was ſeen a blazing* Star, *which ſays my Auther, did perhaps foreſhew the effuſion of blood, which followed after in* Wales *and* Northumberland, *See* Baker Chron. p. 178.

Anno 1580 Octob. 10 *or* 7 *A* Commet *was ſeen, and not long after the Pope ſends ſeveral companies of* Italians *and* Spaniards *to the aid of the Earle of* Deſtmund *in his Rebellion in* Ireland; *But they were through the bleſſing of God ſoon defeated, and many hundreds of them put to*

the

the Sword, Stow. Chron. p. 688.

We need not mention the Comet ſeen in the year 1618, *and what bloody wars did enſue immediately both in* Germany, Poland, Italy *and indeed all the Chriſtian world over, whereof you may read at large in* Stow *and many other famous Chronologes and Hiſtorians.*

XXXIX.

Much about the ſame time by letters from very credible perſons living at *Derby*, we are aſſured that there was ſeen in the Air a great body of fire as big as two or three ordinary houſes, which to the very great terrour and a frightment of the Inhabitants, did fly over the Town of *Derby*, and cauſed ſuch a light that one might have ſeen to have taken up a pin by the light of it.

Fire was ſeen to fly over *Derby*.

XL

About the end of this Month of *Jannuary* a perſon of honeſty and diſcretion by the importunity of ſome of his Children who had been abroad, was prevailed with to go forth to take notice of a ſtrange noiſe which his Children told him they had heard in the Air; Upon his going forth he did hear a ſtrange ruſhing noiſe, and that he might the better ſatisfie himſelf about it, he went further into an open field not far from his houſe, where he plainly ſaw towards the North a black Cloud, and in the Cloud he heard a great ruſhing noiſe as of a ſhower of Rain or Hail; but about the Cloud he ſaw the Sky was nery clear, After a little ſpace of time he heard prefectly the ſound of a Drum beating in the Cloud, and after that the report of great and ſmall Guns wch continued for a long time; afterwards about that black Cloud, where before it was very clear, there appeared many ſmall clouds which flying ſwiftly every way did ſmite and daſh one againſt another; He looked at it till he was weary, and then returned to

Strange and terrible noiſes heard in the Air as of beating of Drums, the reports of great and ſmall Guns, &c.

to his houſe, and in his way thither did ſtill hear the noiſe of drums and guns as before.

The Paralel.

This Prodigie *happened in* Auſtria *in the year* 1621. *and the Month of* March, *and not long after near the place where thoſe noiſes were heard, very bloudy Skirmiſhes and Fights were between the* Swedes *and the* Imperialiſts, Germ. Prod. p. 1[illegible].

It is generally known that theſe kind of noiſes were often heard in the Air in ſeverall parts of England, *not long before the unhappy breaking out of our civil VVars*

And in the year 1658 October 1[illegible]. *the noiſe of Guns and Drums was heard in the Air by many conſiderable perſons in York-ſhire about* Holderneſſe, Holden, Heddon, Patrington, &c. *and ſeverall other places; It continued about half an hour, during which time, there was a great miſt in the Air like ſmoak, and the earth ſeemed to quake and tremble; This thing is ſo generally received as a truth in thoſe parts, there being yet alive ſo many that heard it, that it is above all contradiction.*

XL.

A Meteor in the Heavens like a ſheaf of Corn all on a burning flame.

IN the month of *Feb.* 1660. A Citizen of note, with ſome other Paſſengers came from Gravelend in a night that was ſo dark that the water-men loſt their way, and in ſix hours time had not gone above 4 or 5 Miles; in the mideſt of this darkneſſe, there appeared a fearfull fire in the Heavens, which brake forth like a ſheaf of corn all on a burning flame, and continued ſo about the ſpace of a quarter of an hour; Then was it obſcured for the ſpace of about half a quarter of an hour, and after that flamed again near a quarter of an hour more, and afterwards diſappeared. The Relation comes from the aforeſaid Citizen one of the Paſſengers.

XLII.

The appearance of two Churches in the heavens, the one like a Cathedral, the other a very ſmall one &c.

ABout the 26. of *February* laſt, a diſcreet ſober Gentleman, and of good Quality, an Inhabitant of the Town of *Darkin* in *Surrey*, being abroad in the evening, ſaw a ſtrange cloud in the air, and in it the appearance of two Churches, the one was in the form of a Cathedral, very ſpacious and glorious, having upon it divers goodly Pinnacles, and on each of them a long ſtreamer flaming upwards and as he beheld it, he thought it grew up to a greater ſplendor and glory, glittering and ſhining exceedingly; He ſaw alſo not far from it (which he could ſcarcely diſcern) another Church which was very mean and little in reſpect of the former, and he eſpecially obſerved, that when the great Church was moſt glorious, then the little one was moſt dark and obſcure, yet he plainly diſcerned a very bright ſtar in the midſt of it, and another bright ſtar between the two Churches; After this Gentleman had for ſome time with great admiration beheld this ſtrange apparition, he perceived a ſmall puffe as of breath upon the ſtately Cathedral Church, and immediately it fell down and vaniſhed away; Then he ſaw the little Church with the Star begin to appear more bright and glorious, but upon ſome ſpecial occaſion being earneſtly called into his houſe, he ſaw not the iſſue of it, which ſince hath been a very great trouble to him; This comes from the Spectators own mouth, who hath been alwayes obſerved to be very averſe to give the leaſt credit to relations of this nature, he was by what he ſay with his own eyes convinced of the truth of this.

XLIII.

A flame of fire ſeen over *London*.

ABout eight of the clock at night, *March* 14. 1660 ſome of the Inhabitants of *Plaiſtow* in the Pariſh of *Weſt-Ham* near *London*, ſaw for ſome hours together

ther a very great flame of fire over the City of *London*, as near as they could gueſſe it was ſo great, that a very knowing Perſon, an eye-witneſſe, (from whom we received this information) did declare to us, that he believed he ſhould the next morning have heard that half the City had been conſumed by fire, but coming to *London* the next day, he found his fears prevented, though his admiration very much heightened.

The Paralel.

Such fires were ſeen in many places Anno 1098. *and ſayes my Author*, ſecuta eſt animalium peſtilentia, & ſegetes nimio imbre & ærugine corruptæ ſunt, *there followed upon it a great peſtilence, and the ſpoiling of the fruits of the earth by too much rain and blaſting*, Lycoſt. pag. 389. 390.

The like alſo happened in ſeveral other places, with the like effects, Anno Mundi 3496. ibid. p. 75, 76.

Rome *alſo was once taken, not long after ſuch kind of Meteors were ſeen over it, though ſoon delivered again by* Lucretius, Liu. Hiſt.

The like Prodigie *was ſeen a little before the great diviſions happened between the* Patritii *and the* Plebeii *in* Rome, *and ſo ſtrong attempts were made to bring in the* Decemviri, Anno Mundi, 3505. Lycoſt. p. 73.

XLIV.

A bright cloud running to and fro in the air, and dropping down fire upon *W. H.* and the *P. H. March* 14. 1660.

SEveral Paſſengers coming in a Boat from *Putney* to *London*, about eight of the clock at night, *March* 14. 166⁰, when they were near *Weſtminſter* ſaw a dark and black cloud hanging over *W H* which after a little ſpace of time paſſed away, and in the room of it appeared a white bright cloud, which gave ſuch a light that they could plainly diſcern the windows of the Parliament-Houſe, and people walking to and fro upon *Weſtminſter* bridge, though before it was exceeding dark; whilſt they beheld this cloud, they ſaw it drop down fire ſeveral times upon

W H

W H and then it removed and ſtood over the *P H* and did drop down fire upon that alſo ſeveral times, then it removed back again to *W H* and dropt down fire again and then went back again to the *P H*, and did the like again there, and ſo it continued to do ſucceſſively for 4. or five times together, to the very great affrighting of the Paſſengers, but eſpecially the Watermen; One of the Gentlemen that was in the Boat came (as we have been informed) that night to *W* H and related this ſtory to ſeveral perſons there, the ſame apparition was ſeen at the ſame time and over the ſame places by divers Travellers that came from *Kenſington* towards *London* that night.

XLV.

SOme credible Perſons paſſing upon the *Thames* about eight of the clock at night, *March* 21. 1660. beheld in the Heavens a fiery Meteor as big as a man, which in a ſhort time brake into many hundred of large ſparkles of fire, and ſeemed to them to be lights in the ſky ſhaped like Pyramids, ſharp at the top and ſquare at the bottom.

A fiery Meteor breaking into ſeveral pieces.

XLVI.

UPon the 21 of *March* 1660. between ſeven and eight of the clock in the evening, was ſeen in the air at *London*-bridge by very many judicious and ſober Citizens, full Weſt, or Weſt and by North, ſeveral forms and figures variouſly metamorphiſed, being the perfect ſhapes and repreſentations of ſeveral Beaſts, one Monſter, ſundry Men, and two armies, the relation whereof take as followeth, as it was drawn up by ſeveral of the Spectators, who immediately while the thing was yet freſh in their minds, went together, and every one contributing his obſervations, they agreed unanimouſly upon the enſuing deſcription.

Strange apparitions in the Heavens ſeen by many at *London* bridge, *Mar.* 21. 1660

1 There appeared the figure of a great Cathedrall with a high Tower or Steeple advancing it ſelf in the middle of it, which after a ſhort continuance vaniſhed.

2 There was repreſented the form of an Oak with very large arms and ſpreading boughes which alſo vaniſhed after a ſhort ſeaſon.

3 The third figure was a very large Mountain of which the pyramid or leſſer part ſtood downward, being placed between the ſaid Cathedral and the Oak, which remained fixed for the ſpace of a quarter of an hour without any variation at all; And after that theſe five ſeveral forms of beaſts of Pray ſeemed to iſſue from the right hand, or North part thereof, *viz.*

1 The firſt whereof was in the form of a devouring Crocodile coming out of the middle of the Altitude of the ſaid Mountain, and downward with the mouth wide open, which after a ſhort ſpace changed it ſelf.

2 Into the form of a furious Bull which was in a ſhort time Metamorphiſed. And in the

3 Third place repreſented it ſelf in the form of a fierce *L*ion Rampant which was alſo ſuddenly. And in the

4 Place altered into the figure of a perfect Bear, which was immediately likewiſe turned, And in the

5 Place into a Swine or Bore; And ſo there were the repreſentations of a devouring Crocodile, a furious Bull, a fierce Rampant Lion, and a beaſtly Bore or a Swine which alternately iſſued out of this great Mountain, which ſo ſtood or roſe up between the ſaid Cathedrall and the Oak, all which eight apparitions being quite vaniſhed, the ſame Mountain ſeemed ſuddenly to rend and divide it ſelf from the top, but greateſt part thereof into two diſtinct parts which again were immediately formed into 2 very great beaſts faſtned or chained together by the hin-

der

der parts, the one ſeeming to draw one way, and the other drawing the quite contrary way, *viz.* That on the left hand which faced and drew towards the South, reſembled an Elephant with a Caſtle on his back.

That on the right hand towards the North, ſeemed to be a Lion or moſt like unto a Lion to all the beholders, but none could ſo clearly diſcern what this tenth figure was as they did the reſt; But it ſtood on the right hand with its head Northerly, and ſeemed with all its might to draw the Elephant that way; But ſuddenly after the Caſtle on the Elephants back vaniſhed, the Elephant himſelf looſing his ſhape.

And then in the very poſition or ſtation where the Caſtle ſtood (as near as we could judge) we clearly obſerved about 5 or 6 men to riſe up, which during their continuance were in an uninterrupted Agitation and perplexed motion to and fro, backwards and forwards.

Aafter this the other of thoſe two Beaſts wch were faſtned together and ſeemed to look and draw North and South as aforeſaid (*viz.*) That on the right hand in the form of or moſt reſſembling a Lion, was of a ſudden and in a moment wonderfully transformed into the ſhape of a horſe with a rider upon his back; But both ſuddenly ſeem to fall downwards and ſo extinguiſhed. And then

There aroſe another Cloud which in a ſhort time formed it ſelf into the perfect reſemblance or lively figure of the head of a Whale, having his Mouth alſo wide open. And then

There appeared on the right hand at a further diſtance North-weſt or N. W. and by N. Another Cloud which repreſented it ſelf to our view in the form of a great head with a cap thereupon, in the perfect form of a Cardinal's Cap as the ſame are uſually pictured, having two horns of a very conſi-

derable length affixed thereunto, And between the ſaid Whales head and the ſaid other head or Cap which had the ſaid large horns, there were again a few men more ſeen, moving up and down with a very ſwift motion; But all theſe men alſo ſuddenly diſappeared, one only excepted continued but a little longer then the reſt moving up and down in much Majeſty, magnificence and ſtate. And then

There aroſe another great confuſed Cloud near unto the ſaid great head and Cardinals cap, which had the two large horns, but ſomething more Northerly, which cloud after a little time ſeemed like unto ſome large ruinous ſtructure or building ſeen at a great diſtance, but while the beholders were looking wiſtly thereupon, the ſame then perfectly appeared to be a formidable Army or body of men ſet in Battalia which advanced Southwards. And then

There aroſe another Cloud on the left hand towards the South leaving that ſingle Magiſtick perſon a little more Southerly, which Cloud formed it ſelf into another Army, which was leſſe then the firſt or Northeren Army; This Southeren or leſſe Army advanced it ſelf, likewiſe with much ſeeming celerity and ſpeed againſt the ſaid greater Northeren Army, and being come near each other, the ſaid ſingle Magiſtick perſon vaniſhed, and by or about the time he was totally extinct; Then both Armies ſeemed furiouſly to encounter and aſſail each other, and after the firſt fierce on-ſet or charge, both Armies ſeemed to retrait a little, & then as formerly they made a ſecond furious charge, during which time although the front of the Southern Army ſtood ſtoutly to it and ſeemed to get ground of the Northerēn main body, and made them ſeem a little to retrait, yet yet the Arrair of the Southeren Army ſeemed to be diſcompoſedly confuſed, and by degrees totally extinct, whereupon the ſaid Northeren Army made a third

third and furious charge againſt the Front or remainders of the Southern Army, and they againſt the Northeren Army; And being ſo engaged both Armies ſeemed a little to retrait, ſo as an interval was ſeen between them; And then without any diſcernable victory obtained by either party, the heads of the men of the ſaid Armies which before were clearly diſcernable, became a confuſed Cloud or Chaos and ſo vaniſhed away both together; But the whole duration of all theſe three fierce fights, Conflicts, Cumbates or Battels were very ſhort and tranſcient, and continued not in the whole for above half a quarter of an hour, and then all ſeemed to diſcend into the great Horizon Clouds, ſo far forth as theſe ſpectators could or did then and there obſerve that night ſave only that in the laſt place.

Though firſt in Order there appeared three perfect figures, or ſeveral forms of perfect burning or glowing coales reſembling theſe following figures, with intervals equally diſtant from each other.

The firſt and longeſt whereof ſeemed to be fixed to the middle part of ſome houſes or buildings near Charing Croſs.

The ſecond longeſt or midlemoſt ſeemed likewiſe to be burning about the middle part of ſome houſes in the Strand.

The laſt and ſhorteſt ſeemed likewiſe to the burning as aforeſaid upon ſome houſes or buildings either on or about, or between the Temple and Fleet-bridge.

XLVII.

Two Mones ſeen at *Chiſwick April.* 12. 1661.

April the 12. 1661. about one of the clock in the Morning were ſeen at *Chiſwick* in the County of *Midleſex* two Moones, ſome of the Spectators did aſſure an honeſt Citizen of *London* of the Truth thereof from whoſe mouth we received the Information.

Two

The Paralel. *Two Moones were ſeen at* Dubling *in* Ireland, Octob. 11 1342 *and not many Months after that, people endured moſt grievous oppreſſions by the means of the Lord* Ralph Ufford *who came into* Ireland *as Lord chief Juſtice, concerning whom we read in Hiſtories that none of his predeceſſors were comparable to him, he was a great Oppreſſor of the people, a Robber of the goods both of Clergy and Laity, and much more to the ſame purpoſe ſayes* Mr. Cambden *in his Annales of* Ireland, p. 188, 189.

XLVIII.

Four Rainbows ſeen near *Aulton* in *Hampſhire.* IN the Month of *April*, 1611 about 4 or 5 of the clock in the evening after a great ſtorm of rain and hail were ſeen by ſeveral credible perſons near *Aulton* in *Hampſhire* 4 perfect Rainbows ſtanding directly over each other, and a little diſtance between every one of them; The two lowermoſt were not altogether ſo large, neither did they extend themſelves ſo far as the other two did; This Information we received from an eminent Citizen of *London* who was then in the Countery upon ſome occaſions, and was an eye-witneſs thereof.

The Paralel. *At* Wien *in* Auſtria *in the ſame month of* April Anno 1619. *There appeared three Rainbows in the Heavens, and in the ſame year* Octob. 25. *a great and bloody fight was fought at the* Donaw-bridge *in the ſame Town of* Wien *betwixt the* Bohemians *and General* Bucquoy *in which encounter were ſlain on the Imperiall ſide,* 4500 &c. *As you may ſee at large in the* Germ. Prod p. 9.

XLIX

Ten Rainbows and 4 half ones ſeen near *North Allerton* in *York-ſhire.* WE have alſo an account of ſeveral Rainbows that were lately ſeen together by divers perſons at *Northallerton* in *York-ſhire*, the true and full relation, whereof take as followeth, being an extract of a letter from a Gentleman of very good quality in thoſe parts to an eminent Citizen of *London*. I underſtand

derſtand that divers perſons between a 11 & 12 of the clock on that great windy night, ſaw at *North-Allerton* 10 Rainbows and 4 or 5 half one s, they ſtood all one way and together there being about a yard diſtance between each of them; My informer who with divers others ſaw this thing is a credible perſon, and yet at my houſe, *&c.*

L.

A great Piller of fire ſeen at *Bednal Green*, *April* 23. 1661.

UPon the 23 of *April*, 1661. (the day of his Majeſties Inauguration) about the time of that dreadfull ſtorm of Thunder and Lightning there was ſeen in the Sky at *Bednal Green* near *London*, a great Piller of Fire, and there ſeemed to encompaſs it burning coales of Fire, it continued a little ſpace of time and then vaniſhed; The relation comes from ſome of the eye-witneſſes perſons of credit and Inhabitants there.

LI.

Fiery Clouds and Meteors ſeen at *Pickadilla*, *April* 23. 1661.

THe ſame night alſo about 10 of the Clock were ſeen by ſeveral perſons near *Pickadilla* ſtrange fiery Clouds and Meteors very terrible to the Spectators, from ſome of whoſe mouths we Received the Information.

LII.

Three Suns ſeen near *Kingſton*, *May* 14. 1661.

UPon Tueſday *May* 14. 1661, from the hours of 5 till 7 in the Morning were ſeen 3 *Suns* by ſeveral perſons near *Kingſton* upon the *Thames*; the one appeared Eaſterly a little diſtance from the true Sun, and was of a blood colour, the other more Southerly and was half of a blood and half of a Silver colour: All three were of equal magnitude and equal diſtance from each other, ſome of the Spectators do affirm that when they firſt appeared, their poſition was Triangular; But afterwards they ſtood in a direct line, and as the true Sun aroſe in its ſplendour,

ſplendour, the other two by degrees diſappeared; The whole relation comes from ſober diſcreet perſons eye-witneſs.

The Paralel.

There appeared 3 Suns in the Heavens not long before that contention happened between Galba, Otho *and* Vitellius *about the Romane Empire*, Clark. Prod. p. 484.

Alſo in the year 53. 3. *Suns were ſeen at* Rome *upon which a great famine did immediately enſue*, Lycoſt. p. 247.

The like alſo appeared in Germany Anno. 1541 about *which time Popery was rejected in the* Palatinate Signum Cæleſt p. 5.

The ſame Prodigie *was alſo ſeen near* Brunſwick Anno. 1550 *in which year great troubles did ariſe in* Antwerp, *the Inquiſition oppoſed in the* Netherlands, *and ſeverall of the Princes Electors made war againſt the Emperour*, Sig. Cæleſt. p. 5, 6.

In the time of the Germane *wars 3 Sons were frequently ſeen, and there alwaies followed ſome bloudy battle which was fought near thoſe places, ſee* Germ. Prod. p. 9. 11.

The like alſo as many credible perſons have affirmed was ſeen in England *on the 19 of* Novemb. 1648. *as alſo in the ſeverall years*, 1639. 1644, 1645, 1646, 1647. *And eſpecially in the year* 1650. *Not long before that famous and bloody fight between us and the* Scots *at* Dunbar.

LIII.

A dreadful whirl-wind accompanied with ſtrange and Prodigious apparitions in the Heavens.

UPon the 24. of *May* 1661 there was about *Market-Street*, and ſeveral other places adjacent, in the Counties of *Herdford*, *Bucks* and *Bedford*, a dreadfull whirle-wind accompanied with many ſtrange and Prodigious Apparitions in the Heavens, whereof many of the Inhabitants in thoſe places were Spectators, and the moſt ſober and diſcreet that we could find out amongſt them, have given us the

the ſubſtance of the following deſcription thereof.

Severall perſons of very good credit Inhabitants of *Kenſworth* in the County of *Hertford* do inform us that upon the aforeſaid 24 of *May* 1661 in the fields of the ſaid Pariſh of *Kenſworth* about 2 of the clock in in the after noon they with divers others heard a very dreadfull and ſtrange noiſe in the Air, which they could not tell what to liken to, ſome conceived it was like a continued noiſe of Thunder at ſome diſtance, others compared it to the noiſe of ſeveral drums beating together; Immediately after this frightfull noiſe there aroſe a very ſtrong and tempeſtuous wind, & with that a black dark Cloud with a great ſmoak appeared, and above the Cloud and ſmoak they beheld very clearly the form of two May-poles, the one of a dark black, and the other of a whitiſh colour, they were ſo plainly viſible that the very Children (who were at the ſame time gathering ſtones in the field) took great notice of them, and were able to deſcribe them. The ſpectators had a full view of theſe May-poles as they paſſed along in the Air for the ſpace of half a mile, untill they ſaw the whiter May-Pole wholly to vaniſh, & the other to looſe very much of its ſhape and form; This noiſe and repreſentations went along from *Kenſworth* to the next Town called *Caddington*, and paſſing through a field of one *Thomas Birchmoores* where his Servants were then at Plow, the noiſe and Repreſentations aforeſaid, were ſo dreadfull and they ſo afrighted therewith, that immediately with great amazement they ran away from their work, and left their horſes in the field. The wind was ſo violent that it took up ſtones in great abundance, both in the aforeſaid field and elſe-where, and threw them up a very great hight into the Air; From this field it paſſed to a great houſe called *Caddington Berry* belonging to the Dean of *Pauls*, where a Court was kept for him at the ſame time, and the Cook who did dreſſe the dinner there

that day going forth upon ſome occaſions had been carried away by the Whirlwind, but that he took hold of ſomething and ſo ſtayed himſelf as he hath ſince confeſſed; It alſo took off many Tyles from the ſaid houſe, and a great deal of thatch from the Barnes and out-houſes, it threw up the water out of a Pond there, as if (according to the relation of ſome of the Spectators) a thouſand men had been lading of it with Shovels, not far from hence it tore up divers trees by the roots, and did bow down ſeverall very tall ſpires, that the tops of them did very near touch the ground, and in one place a Barn conſiſting of three bay of building, was taken up from the ground-pinning and turned quite over.

And as it paſſed from *Caddington* B*a*rry it carried along with it as it were ſheets of dirt, water and ſtones which it took up in the Air, and were plainly deſcerned by the Spectators.

We have yet a further account of this ſtrange Prodigie as it was ſeen by other perſons in other places which you may take as followeth.

Two very diſcreet and ſober men living near *Dunſtable* do aſſure us that they 2 being together on the ſaid 24 of *May*, did ſee between *Dunſtable* and *Market-Street*, a very dark and black cloud paſſing towards *Caddington*, out of which there iſſued according to their apprehentions, a Sword with the point hanging downwards which grew bigger and bigger till it came to the exact form of a Steeple with the ſpire downwards, and the bottom upwards which was very black and dark, but the ſpire (which as we ſaid was next the Earth, and as near as the beholders could judge in the middle of the Cloud) was of a brighter colour, and did very much extend it ſelf downwards towards the Earth; But after a while it drew it ſelf up again much like to the figure of a Steeple as before, and then within a ſhort ſpace of time it was ſo abreviated that it did not ſeem to them

them to be more then a Pole long, and when it came to that porportion the motion of it was very tremulous, ſo that it ſeemed to ſhake to and fro continually; After this it extended it ſelf downwards again, and appeared in the form and ſhape of a very tall *Steeple*, the lower end whereof did ſuddenly leſſen to a very ſharp point, and quickly became perfectly taper, and then aſcended up into the Cloud juſt like the ſmoak of a Chimny, and when the ſmoak was vaniſhed they ſaw the ſhape of the Steeple again, but it did ſoon ſhorten it ſelf till it came to be about a Pole long, and then the lower end of it did ſhake as before; and at the upper end of it next the Cloud appeared a white ſtrake exceeding bright, and as near as they could judg about a foot and a half long, and preſently after, all did center in the Cloud again: Immediately upon which the Cloud divided, and one part of it with an incredible ſwiftneſſe did fly away from the other; This diviſion of the Cloud was much about the place where they ſaw the *Steeple* before; That other part of the Cloud which remained was ſuddenly formed into the likeneſſe of a mill-wheele with Coggs, and did turn round with a very ſwift motion, upon which there ſeemed to fall down dead men ſpreading their Arms and Legs, others as if they had been cut off at the waſt to their apprehenſions, alſo there fell the quarters of mens bodies, as likewiſe the ſhape of dogs, after which all became a very white Cloud, and then its motion wholly ceaſed. This whole Apparition was with great diliberation drawn up by the perſons themſelves who ſaw it, and by them preſented to a perſon of known Integrity in their Neighbourhood (who is alſo a contributer to this collection) from whom immediately we received it.

By two very ſober credible perſons we are informed that upon the ſame 24 of *May*, they ſaw in

the Air near *Caddesden* in the county of *Hertford* the form of a very high Steeple which as they appehended did shake exceedingly, and by degrees it lessened it self to the proportion of a May-pole, and for a while continued in that shape, till at last it became like to a mans thigh with the leg and foot as also with the knee bending, after a short space it disappeared.

Also upon the same day near *Leighton Buzzard* in the County of *Bedford* severall honest persons did see in the Air the likeness of a May-pole sometimes very streight, and sometimes very crooked twisting like a worm; This they beheld for the space of half an hour, then there arose a smoak, and from the smoak issued the appearance of fire, which suddenly seized upon and consumed the May-pole.

LIV.

Seven Suns seen at Dantz. about the 20 Feb, 1660.

THe *Dutch Curranto* doth tell us of many strange Prodigies that have this year been seen in divers places beyond the seas; But because we have no other confirmation of the Truth of those reports we omit here to insert them, and shall onely give the Reader an Account of the 7 *Suns* which were seen at *Dantzick* about *February* last, as it is at large Related in the following extract of a letter written from thence by a Person of Quality and Ingenuity to a Merchant of good note in this City.

At *Dantz.* 20 *Feb* 1660 *No. Sti.* about 11 of the clock when the *Sun* was going into the *South*-East, and the Air was very clear and still round about, I did see 7 Suns together very distinctly in the Heavens, to wit 3 coloured ones and three white ones besides the true Sun it self, about which was first a pretty big and almost cloted circle round about very fair of colours much like a Rainbow, upon which on both sides 2 coloured *Suns* with the right *Sun* of the same altitude

altitude from the Horizon were found both of them having long clear and somewhat whitish tailes picket as a Comet, the one bending towards the East and the other towards the West. Secondly above the Circle right, over half the Sun under a verticle line there stood a piece of an inverted circle or rainbow very fair of all manner of colours, with another somewhat darkish collaterall Sun. Thirdly there presented it self yet a great circle of all manner of colours, round about the Sun which compassed the same circle was somewhat paler and not altogether shut the Horizon being too near, and the Diameter of the circle being too great, upon which on the top of the capital Point there was also to be seen an invert piece of a Rainbow very bright and of orient colours. Fourthly there came another exceeding great and whitish silver coloured circle as it were out of both the Collateral Suns, besides the true Sun there came out of it (which encompassed the whole Horizon, and stood equally from the same at the same distance, some 20 Degrees upon the circle) 3 silver coloured Suns, the one in the North towards west, to wit over against the right *Sun*, the other in the East by North, and the 3 in the West towards the *South*; through these 2 last, to wit towards the Easterly and Westerly passed a white piece in circle-wise coming from above and passing through the great bow on which they stood; So that through both these collateral Suns there seemed to pass a white Crosse which was very notable and wonderfull to behold near an hour and half till all vanished again; So that the whole Phenomenon presented it self above measure, or exceeding fair, besides its very remarkable that 7 Suns after this manner truly have scarce ever been observed to have shown themselves together; Yea if I had somewhat sooner observed their Phenomenon that might have been seen nine Suns together, for I could well

discern

diſcern the foot-ſteps of two more.

The Paralel. *Five Suns were ſeen in* England *in the* 17 *year of* Henry *the Third, after which followed ſo Great a Darth that many People were conſtrained to eat horſ-fleſh and barks of Trees, and in* London *twenty Thouſand were ſtarved for want of food,* Baker. Chron. p. 100.

Strange accidents, Storms, Earthquakes and other Prodigies happening on the Earth from May 1660. to the latter end of May 1661.

I

One ſeen on horſ-back without a head and two Armies one of gray Coats, and the other of red Coats engaging one againſt the other.

BY a Letter from a very credible perſon in *York-ſhire* to a Citizen of note in *London*, it is certified that in the month of *May*, 1660 there was the apparition of one clad in white on horſ-back without a head galloping over hedges and ditches, as in plain waies, immediately upon this there was the appearance of an Army of Gray coats driving a flock of ſheep towards a hedge, where they did hack and cut them as they paſſed through ſome gaps in the hedge, upon which an Army of Red Coates fell upon the gray Coats and totally routed them, and then the whole diſappeared.

II.

IN or about the month of *July*, 1660. a Lyoneſs in the Tower of *London* brought forth three Lyon whelps at a time, a birth very rarely heard of except in ſome Counteries at her firſt Litter; But in theſe parts of the World never known before.

A Lyoneſs brought forth 3 Lyons. *Vid. Plin. Nat. Hiſt. Lib. 8 Cap. 16 p. 201.*

III.

AT *Dover Auguſt.* 4 1660 from 10 of the Clock at night to two the next morning were ſuch ſtorms of Hail accompanied with Thunder and Lightning as the like was never known in thoſe parts before, ſome of the Hailſtones that fell were as big as walnuts, ſome that were meaſured were four inches about, fifty pounds damage at leaſt was done to Glaſſe-windows in that Town by this ſtorm.

Hail ſtones as big as Walnuts, accompaned with thunder & lightning.

Many ſuch ſtorms as this happened in the time of King John, *but one above all the reſt was very remarkable wherein it hailed ſtones as big as Gooſe-eggs,* Baker. Chron. p. 80.

The Paralel.

What ſad miſeries did hereupon enſue to the whole Kingdome all our Authentick ſtories do ſufficiently teſtifie how were the people, yea the very Lords themſelves harraſſed by cruel oppreſſions and illegal exactions, but above all it is unſpeakable what the whole Nation ſuffered by continuall broyls and Diviſions, both whiles Prince Arthur *King* Johns *Nephew lived, who was his Competitor for the Crown, and alſo after his death from the* French *King and others; Inſomuch that a good Hiſtorian ſayes that the Kingdome was made the Stage of all miſeries of rapine and cruelty; Two Armies in it on foot at once, each of them ſeeking to prey upon the other, and both of them upon the Countery: Many other Paralels we could inſtance in, but that we are careful not to ſwell this Narative to too great a bulk; Only take theſe two ſhort inſtances, the one in the year*

Baker. Chron. of the reign of King John. p. 80.

year 1496 *at which time there were hail-ſtones* 13 *inches about, and not long after followed a great Plague eſpecially in* London, Baker. p. 268. *The other is that in the laſt year of* Queen Maries *Reign,* Anno 1558 *Hail-ſtones were taken up which being meaſured were* 15 *inches about,* Baker Chron. p. 346.

IV.

A dreadfull whirlewind, *Sep.* 3. 1660. in *Leiceſter ſhire.*

UPon the third of *September*, 1660. in *Leiceſter ſhire* near the Town of *Worthington* began a very dreadfull Whirlwind, it turned an houſe on one ſide, tore up a great Tree by the roots, caſting it 4. or 5. yards from the place where it grew, it rent off the great limbes of an Apple-tree, and threw down a houſe into the ſtreet; the Chappel is ſorely ſhaken and the Chauncell in danger of falling; Then it paſſed on with great force and noiſe to *Worthington* Hall where it overturned five baies of Barn building and a Gate-houſe, It blew down a ſtack of chimnies, It hurried a man into the Orchard, where with his Arme he catched hold of a tree, and ſo ſtayed himſelf; From hence it paſſed renting trees and turning ſome up by the roots to a houſe that ſtands alone, where it took away a load of thorns, few of wch could ever be found after, it took out alſo the ſide of another houſe. At a town called *Tounge*, it overthrew a bay of Barn building, and rent a houſe where a woman with three children were miraculouſly preſerved, to this houſe alſo it brought a great log of wood, none knows from whence between *Worthington* and *Tounge* it is conceived that this wind hath rent off, and turned up by the roots twenty loads of wood, it carried away likewiſe a Hive of Bees which could not ſince be heard of; This whirlwiud ran about three miles in length, and the effects of it were not ſeen above twenty yards in breadth, ſome ſay that flames of fire were ſeen in it; This Relation comes from an honeſt diſcreet perſon, a ſpectator of the fore-

forementioned effects of this dreadfull whirlwind.

Anno 1624. *and* May 8. *The like to this happened in* Ratisbone *which tore up trees by the roots, and in a moment drave them to divers places, it threw down many houſes in the City and Suburbs,* &c. *This Town afterwards was ſtreightly beſieged and ſeverall times aſſaulted by the* Imperial *and* Bavarian *Army conſiſting of* 45000. *horſe and foot, of whom at leaſt* 8000. *were killed in the Seige; but the City at laſt was ſurrendered to them upon Honourable Conditions, See* Germ. Prod. p. 20. *The Paralel.*

Such a ſtorm alſo happened within a mile of Nottingham *the* 5 *and laſt year of* Queen Maries *Raign, by which amongſt other thing the water and mud of the River* Trent *were taken up and carried a quarter of a mile and daſhed againſt trees, many of which were torn up by the roots and caſt twelve score off, alſo a Child was taken out of a mans hand and carried two ſpears length high, and then let fall* 200 *foot off, and ſo died of the fall,* Baker Chron. p. 346.

V.

UPon the 28. of *Auguſt*, 1660. were ſeen in *Bevery* Market-place, and in ſeverall other places in the ſaid Town, an innumerable company of little frogs or toads or both; The people knew not how they came there, they having never been before ſo infeſted with thoſe kind of Creatures, but by circumſtances they Collected they might come out of the Air, becauſe they found ſeverall of them upon their Cloaths, which did hang on the hedges, many alſo did fall down to the ground from the tops of their houſes; This is certified by a Merchant of *Hull* who was that day at *Bevery* market and ſaw theſe frogs, and helpt as himſelf relates to deſtroy many hundreds of them while he remained there. *The*

An innumerable company of Frogs & Toads reigned out of the Air at *Hull Auguſt.* 28. 1660.

The Paralel.

The like to this happened in Alsatia, Anno. 1549. Lycost. p. 604.

In the same year Pope Paulus tertius *died, and the next year after there were great stirs in* Germany, *the Emperour* Charles *the fifth was so prosecuted and invironed by those who rose up against him, that he very hardly escaped with his Life by flight,* Lycost .p 611.

VI.

An innumerable company of Spiders seen marching up one of the Streets at *Bury* in *Suffolk*, Sep. 6 1660.

AT St. *Edmunds-Bury* in *Suffolk*, *Sept.* 6. 1660. in the middle of the Broadstreet, there were got together an innumerable company of Spiders of a redish colour, the spectators judged them to be as many as would have filled a Peck; These spiders marched together, and in a strange kind of order from the place, where they were first discovered towards one Mr. *Duncombs* house a member of the late Parliament, and since Knighted; and as the people passed the streets, or came near the spiders to look upon so strange a sight, they would shun the people, and kept themselves together in a body till they came to the said *Duncombes* house, before whose door there are two great Posts, there they staied, and many of them got under the door into the house, but the greatest part of them climbing up the posts spun a very great web presently from the one post to the other, and then wrapt themselves in it in two very great parcels that hung down near to the ground, which the servants of the house at last perceiving, got dry straw and laid it under them, and putting fire to it by a suddain flame consumed the greatest part of them, the number of those that remained were not at all considerable; All the use that the Gentleman made of this strange accident so far as we can learn, is only this, that he believes they were sent to his house by some Witches.

VII

VII.

THe ſame day were alſo ſeen a great ſwarm of flyes flying over the ſaid Town of St. *Edmunds-Bury*, their multitude was ſo great that the Sky ſeemed to be darkned by them; both theſe relations come from credible perſons eye-witneſſes, however the Truth of theſe things is notoriouſly known to the Generalitie of the Inhabitants in that Town.

A great ſwarm of flyes ſeen flying over St. *Edmunds-Bury*.

VIII.

IN the County of *Merrioneth* in *North-wales*, in a field or cloſe which did belong to *Colonel John Jones* who was executed at *Charing-Croſs*, *Oct.* 17. 1660. Was ſeen by a Tennant of his going forth into the ſaid field that morning or very near the time, a Crab-tree covered all over with bloſſomes, he was ſo aſtoniſhed at it that he could not believe it was ſo till he came near to the Tree and cut off a bough of it, which he carried home with him and ſhewed to his Familie and divers of his Neighbours; ſeverall other credible perſons ſaw the tree, and many Gentlemen that were near and heard of it, ſent for boughs, which when they ſaw, they were convinced of the Truth of the report. This relation we received firſt by letters from the aforeſaid tennant, and a further confirmation we have ſince had of it by ſome very credible perſons Inhabitants there eye-witneſſes, who coming up to *London* did here atteſt it *vivæ voce*.

A Crabtree covered with Bloſſomes in the Month of *October*, 1660.

IX.

THe like alſo was ſeen on another Crabtree not far from the former which began to bloſſome on

Another Crabtree begun to bloſſome in another place at the ſame time.

on the ſaid 17 of *October*, and the next day was full of ripe bloſſomes like the other, but within four or five dayes they all faded and withered away; The Information of this particular, alſo we have by letters from the perſons themſelves who were *Spectators*.

X.

Many meddow-mice which did eat up the graſs in ſome parts of *Norfolk*.

IN the Month of *November* laſt, 1660 in ſome parts of *Norfolk*, were ſuch Multitudes of meddow-mice, that in many hundred Acres together, one could hardly ſet down his foot without treading on them, they did eat up the roots of the graſs, and in one Mr. *Spelmans* ground as himſelf confeſt they have ſpoiled him ſo much graſs, as uſed to keep 130 fat Cattle, he feared alſo he ſhould be damnified by them 300. l. in a field of Cole-ſeed.

The Paralel.

We find that in the ſame month of Novem. Anno, 1580. *at* South-Minſter, *in* Danſey *hundred in* Eſſex, *there appeared an infinite number of Mice which overwhelmed the whole Earth in thoſe Marches, and did ſhere and gnaw the graſs to the roots, upon it followed a great murrein of Cattle which afterwards fed in thoſe grounds,* Stow. Chron. p. 689.

The year following Queen Elizabeth *was much diſturbed with* Jeſuites, *of which ſeverall were executed.*

XI.

A great tempeſt wch cauſed the *Sea* (it being a *Spring* tide) to break down many ſtrong banks in *Cheſhire* to the very great detriment of the Country.

IN *Cheſhire*, upon the 8. of *Novem.* laſt, was a moſt Tempeſtuous wind, and it being a Spring tide, all the low grounds to *Thornton Moore Arme* were overflowed like a Sea; Great prejudice was done to many peoples houſes, ſome Barns and Winmills were blown down, the ſea was ſo out-ragious & high that it broke down Cops at *Juce*, that had ſtood as

is

is reported 100 years, it brak down alſo a new ſtrong Cops about the green *Warth* which coſt 3 or 400. l. making it break down *Infrente Dams*, which kept the flood from the Mill, and very much Corn in the mill was ſpoiled; The Sea alſo flowed over *Jnce* at *Eldon-Marſh*, and did very great harm in *Frodſome-Marſh*, many ſheep and rabbets were drowned, as alſo beyond *Cheſter* many Sheep with Mares and Colts were drowned, very great harm was alſo done by Shipwrack at Sea, few or no Veſſels in thoſe parts eſcaped; But that the Lord might make it eminently to appear that he Commands the Winds and the Seas, that they muſt obey him; It is credibly reported that in this great ſtorm, two Children the one of ten the other of ſeven years of age, being playing together in a Cock-boat in *Ireland* were driven to Sea, and by the violence of the ſtorm were brought to the *Engliſh* coaſt, and were both found in the Cock-bote enfolded in each others Armes being almoſt dead, but when they were taken out of the Boat, ſuch means were uſed that it pleaſed the Lord both of them recovered again; This whole relation we have by letters from very credible perſons in thoſe parts who do aſſure us of the truth of every perticular hereof.

The Paralel.

In the year 1534 *ſuch an inundation happened in* Poland, *and the ſame year the King of* Scandia *died, and* Henry *the* 8. *King of* England *by Act of Parliament aboliſhed the Popes Authority in this Nation,* Lycoſt. pag. 555.

Alſo in the year 1568. *Through the exceſſive ſwelling of the Sea, many places in* Zeland, Holland *and almoſt all* Frizland *were overflowed with Water, whereby beſides the loſs of many mens lives, the Country in other reſpects was exceedingly damnified,* Clarks Prod. p 491. *About that time great troubles were in thoſe parts, becauſe of the cruell and bloody perſecution of the* Proteſtants *in that* Country

Country ly Duke de Alva, who for the ti multuous violence of ſome few in throwing down Images &c. Did by death and Impriſonments moſt unhumanely chaſtiſe all the reſt of the party who were no waies guilty of any crime, but ſuch violent and unjuſt proceedings did quickly afterward irritate the people to throw off the Yoke of the King of Spain, *and there with the Idolatry and Superſtition of* Rome, *whereby they enjoyed and ſo do to this day a very great freedom both in their civil and Religious capacities.*

XII.

The Devil in the likeneſs of a Biſhop appeared to a Scholar in *Magdalen Coll. Novem.* 10. 1660.

BY a letter from a very good hand from *Magdalen* Colledge in *Oxford* it is certified that about the 10 of *Novem.* laſt, 1660 a Spectrum appeared to one *Allen* of that Colledge, which according to his own Relation was as followeth, he heard in the night when he was in bed, a noiſe like the noiſe of geeſe, he aroſe from his bed and looked out at his Window which opened over the Bridge but ſaw nothing, but going to his bed again he ſaw a man as it were grovelling upon the floor, in his Pontificalibus, attired like a Biſhop in his Lawn ſleeves, *&c.*

At firſt he was not much affrighted, but called to it and adjured it to ſpeak, the Biſhop immediately roſe up and approached towards his bed, at which the young man was exceedingly terrified, and crying out murder, murder, it vaniſhed, he ſince ſayes, that he ſaw and heard ſomthing which he will diſcover to none; upon the report of this ſtrange apparition in the Colledge, the next night five or ſix Schollars watched in that Chamber, and about midnight, on a ſuddain the candles went out, and immediately upon it was heard a great noiſe as of Children crying out, which ſo affrighted them, that they all run out of the Chamber; This is a thing generally known and talk't of by the *Students* in that houſe, though as it is reported the ſubpreſident did

did his uttermoſt to ſuppreſs the rumour of it, and by his menaces hath ſo awed the Scholar, that except it be to ſome ſpecial confidents he dares not own this to any.

The Paralel.

An Apparition not unlike to this we find to be in the year 1402 *in the Raign of* Henry *the* 4. *when the Devil appeared in the likeneſe of a Gray or White* Fryer *at* Danebury *in* Eſſex, *he came into the* Church *and extreamly affrighted the people who were there aſſembled together, and great hurt was done to the* Chancell *and Steeple by him; Not long after, ſeveral of theſe gray or white* Fryars *were hanged and beheaded for Treaſon, and many Priories with their Poſſeſſions were reſumed and ſeized into the Kings hands,* ſee Stow. Chron. p. 327.

XIII.

UPon the 23 of *November* laſt, 1660. there happened in *Garuſey* a moſt violent ſtorm with terrible Thunder and Lightning wherein ſeveral perſons were killed, and much hurt done otherwayes; of this the Publique Intelligencer gives a full and true Account, unto whom we referre the Reader.

A violent ſtorm with thunder and lightning, wherein ſeveral perſons were killed.

XIV.

UPon the 8 of *December* 1660 at night there happened, eſpecially in *York-ſhire* and other parts Northerly, a very dreadfull ſtorm of wind, the like they ſay was never in any mans memory known before, very much hurt was done by the blowing down of chimneys and houſes, but eſpecially the Windmills and the ſhips went to wreck, it ſpared not the conſecrated places, many Churches were ſorely ſhaken; the great Catheral at *York* was damnified by it as it was judged at leaſt 1500 *l.* neither did *Rippon*, nor

A dreadful ſtorm of wind in *Yorkſhire.*

nor *Beverly* Minſters eſcape free; The prejudice that the violence of this wind did to ſeveral Towns is not to be valued. At the ſame time the aſſurance Frigot deſigned for *Guyny* was ſunk in the *Thames* and about 30 men drowned in her, the effects of this Sorm alſo reached beyond the Seas; The Publique Intelligencer obſerves that upon the ſame day the houſe of Peeres voted the digging up of *Oliver Cromwells* bones; The ſame day alſo was as great a Tempeſt in *Ireland*, and very much miſchief done, ſome Stacks of Corn on my Lord *Mazarines* ground were ſo blown away and diſperſed, that (as his Lordſhip related it) there was ſcarce a ſtraw left upon a ſtraw; ſome other great prejudices his Lordſhip with many others ſuſtained in that Kingdom alſo.

The Paralel.

At Breſlaw *in* Sileſia Anno 1625 *there happened a very great Tempeſt which did very much miſchief to the* Churches, &c. *At the ſame place afterwards there were many hot and ſharp encounters between the* Imperialiſts *and the* Swedes *as you may read at large in the* Germ. Prod p. 25, 26.

Alſo upon the 9 *of* April 1628. *near* Hatford *in* Barkſhire *There happened a very terrible Tempeſt, and the ſame Summer*, viz Auguſt 23 *following the* Duke of Buckingham *was ſtabbed by Leivt* John Felton, Stow. hron. p. 1044.

We in this Iſland muſt never forget that Prodigious and dreadfull ſtorm of wind on the 4 *of* November 1627 *About* 10 *of the Clock at night, which the famous and learned* Dr. Jackſon *Chaplain to his late Majeſty in his Appendix to his Sermons on* Luke 21 26. *takes great notice of ſaying, that amongſt all the forewarning ſignes given to this Land as ſo many Summons to Repentance, none which have been given within my memory did make ſo durable impreſſions upon my heart and thoughts as that late mighty wind,* &c *Read more in the aforeſaid Appendix: We all too well Remember what followed hereupon both in reſpect of the troubles in* Scotl. *and the civil wars amongſt our ſelves for ſo many years together.*

XV

XV.

A very great and terrible thunder and lightning happened at *Oxford Decem.* 18 which hath not been uſuall in the winter ſeaſon.

A great Thundering and Lightning at *Oxford, Dec.* 18. 1660.

XVI.

UPon the 24 of *January* laſt 1660 betwen ſix and ſeven of the Clock at night there was a very great Earthquake in moſt parts of *Leiceſterſhire*, and in ſome places in the adjacent Counties, it came at the firſt with a noiſe in the Air like Thunder at a great diſtance, it ſhaked the houſes very much, and in ſome places men could hardly ſtand, except they held by ſomething, it continued about the ſpace of a quarter of an hour; This is a thing Publiquely known in moſt parts of that County as alſo in *Rutland*, &c.

A great Earthquake in *Leiceſterſhire Jan.* 24. 1660.

The Paralel.

There was a dreadfull Earthquake on the 22 *of* October Anno 105. *Not long after followed that moſt cruel & bloody perſecution of the Chriſtians under* Trajan *the Emperour* Dion.

In the City of Lacedemon *there happened alſo a very great Earthquak and not long after a certain people called* Iloræ *which were their ſlaves roſe up againſt them and put them to great diſtreſſe*, &c. Plutarch de vita Cimonis p. 503.

An Earthquake alſo happened in Conſtantinople Anno 1509. *After which enſued a great Plague whereby the City was for the moſt part unpeople'd*, Turk Hiſt. p. 476. *And indeed according to the opinion of Philoſophers the Peſtilence in a natural way is the Common and ordinary effect of Earthquakes, ſee* Zanch de operibus Dei, p. 375. *and ſo* Seneca Quæſt. *natural* Cap. 27.

See many other Portenta of the Earthquakes in *Trifmeg. Lib* 5 *p.* 511. & *Lycoſt de Prodig. p.* 468.

On the 6 *of* April, *and on the firſt of* May 1580 *and the*

22 *year of the Raign of* Queen Elizebeth *there happened very great Earthquakes both in the City of* London *and ſeverall other places, in which year as we ſaid before* pag. *The Pope ſent aid to the* Iriſh *who were in Rebellion againſt the Queen, but they were all by the bleſſing of God utterly defeated and cut off, See* Stow. p. 687, 688.

Anno 1381 *in the time of* Richard *the 2 was a great Earthquake in many parts in this Nation, and what enſued thereupon you may read at large in* Stow. Chron p. 283, &c. *See alſo* Lyoſt. p. 468.

XVII.

Two Hoggs come in to the Cathedrall at *Canterbury.*

UPon the 5 of *November* 1660 two great Hoggs came two ſeverall and very ſtrange unuſuall wayes up divers ſteps into the Cathedrall of *Canterbury*, and went into the quire when the Prebends were in the mideſt of their Devotion, and there continued till they were driven out by the Vergers; The Generality of the Inhabitants of that City do very well remember that a little before the down-fall of the Hierarchy in the year 1641. The ſame thing happened in the ſame place, *Malum Omen.*

XVIII.

Wheat was rained in *Lincolnſh.* about *April* 26, 1661.

ABout the 26 of *April* 1661 at *Spalding* and *Bourne* and ſeverall other places in *Lincolnſhire* it rained Wheat, ſome grains of it were very thin and hollow, but others of a more condenſe ſubſtance, and would grinde into a fine flower, ſeverall Pecks of it were taken up out of Church-leads, and other houſes that were leaded, ſeverall of the Inhabitants there who were eye-witneſſes have brought up ſome of the grain to *London*, which ſome of us have ſeen, and as we are credibly informed a good quantity of it hath been preſented to his Majeſty by a perſon of honour.

We

We find that Anno 722 *in a field in* Italy, *there fell a great quantity of Corn from Heaven in a ſhower of rain; After which time, and in the ſame year* Charles *the Emperour did ſubdue the* Saxons; *And ſeverall Biſhops were by the ſame Emperour for their pride and inſolencies thrown out of their Biſhopricks,* Lycoſt. p. 328. The Paralel.

The like alſo happened Anno 828. *In which year* Ludovicus *the Emperour tranſported an Army into* Africa, *and in a pitched Field did totally vanquiſh and overcome the* Africans, Lycoſt. p. 347, 348.

About the year 1641 *it rained a kind of grain in ſeverall parts of* England *which was like a withered wheat corn, but not ſo long, with a skin of a dark colour, which being pulled off, the grain had a taſt ſomewhat ſharp and hot;* Mr. Baxter *aſſures us that he taſted ſome of it himſelf and kept ſome of it long, which fell on the leads of the Church and of the Miniſters houſe in* Bridg-North *where* Mr. Baxter *then preached the Goſpel, See* Baxters *Saints reſt* 8 *Edition* p. 227.

XIX.

IN the ſame month of *April* 1660 about *Cheſterfield* in *Derbyſh.* it rained white aſhes, which fell in ſuch quantities that ſeveral fields did look very white as if Snow had covered them; a perſon of very good credit who hath lately been in thoſe parts received this account from ſeverall of the Spectators. The raining of aſhes near *Cheſterfield* in *Derbyſhire.*

The like was ſeen at Conſtantinople Anno 653. *which did much terrifie the people, and immediately there followed a great mortality by reaſon of the Peſtilence which raged exceedingly in that City for many months after,* Lycoſt. p. 322. *The Paralel.*

The ſame thing alſo happened near the ſame place Anno. 744 *being the year wherein* Conſtantine *took* Conſtantinople *by force,* Lycoſt. p. 329.

XX.

A very fierce & ſuddain ſhower of rain in *Lon. May* 21 1661.

UPon the 21 of *May* 1661 (the day before the Covenant was burned,) there fel ſo much rain in *London*, by reaſon of a moſt fierce and ſudden ſhowr which laſted not much more then half an hour) that moſt of the ſtreets were like Rivers, inſomuch that great Casks &c. did ſwim down the Streets; and in Colemanſtreet the water was ſo high that a great dog could not croſſe the way but by ſwimming, whereof ſeverall Inhabitants there did take ſpeciall notice; Near *Smithfield* alſo the water ran with ſuch violence that it bore down ſeverall hog-ſties in the Caſtle-Inn Yard, and carried the hogs down the common-ſhore to the middle of *Cheek lane*, which is near 2 Rood, many thouſand pounds as ſome Judicious Citizens have affirmed will not make good the damage which Merchants, Vintners, Victuallers and other Tradeſemen have ſuſtained by that haſty and violent ſhowre.

The Paralel.

The like ſtorm of ſuddain rain happened in London *the ſecond year of King* James, Anno 1604. *as you may read at large in* Stow. Chron. p. 844.

Alſo on the laſt of Septemb. 1558 *and the fifth and laſt year of Queen* Mary *there was ſo great a ſhower that ſeveral boates were rowed from* Weſtminſter-Bridge *into Kings-ſtreet,* Bakers Chron. p. 347.

The like flood of waters in the ſpace of half an hour the Clouds powered down upon Kutterberge *in* Bohemia Anno 1623. *in the time of the bloody perſecution which the Proteſtants did undergo there, See* Bohem. Hiſt. p. 355.

XXI.

XXI.

WE muſt not paſſe by without obſervation the great and unuſuall rains that have fallen this Spring; The oldeſt man living can hardly remember the like, there being ſcarce a day or elſe a night for many weeks together wherein the Heavens did not poure down very great ſhowers upon the Earth, the prejudices whereof we may juſtly fear (if the Lord in much mercy prevent not) the whole Nation will feel before this year be expired.

Great rains for many weeks together this preſent year, 1661.

Theſe great rains are by our Hiſtorians numbred amongſt the Caſualities that happened in the time of that moſt unhappy King Henry *the 6. The troubleſomeneſs of whoſe Raign is ſufficiently known to all that have been but ordinarily verſed in our Engliſh Chronicles and Hiſtories.*

The Paralel.
Baker Chron. p. 213.

Alſo in the year 1594 *and the* 36*th of the Raign of* Queen Elizabeth, *it Rained from* May *till about the latter end of* July *almoſt every day or night, and after it followed (though a reaſonable good harveſt) yet a great dearth of Corn and all manner of proviſions, See* Stow. p. 769.

XXII.

BY divers letters from *Scotland* we are certified that a woman lately in that Nation brought forth a ſtrange and dreadfull Monſter the deſcription whereof take as followeth, being an extract of one of thoſe letters which was ſent from a known credible perſon in *Scotland* to a friend and near relation of his not far from *London*.

A Woman delivered of a ſtrange Monſter in *Scotland*.

In the County of Bochanon *in our Iſland, there was a Woman brought to bed of a certain Creature, which before it came forth was heard to ſqueke and cry in the womb, and as it was coming out, it did ſqueke ſo terribly that every one*

run

ran away affrighted. At laſt the Minſter with ſeverall others came in, and there was born a Creature all hairy, beneath the girdle like a man-Child, and above the ſhoulders two heads, one upon the top of the other, the upper like the face of a Lion, and did immediately run up and down the houſe, crying three times woe, woe, woe, to the world: The Father of this Monſter knockt it on the head, this is a certaine truth.

XXIII.

WEe are from very good hands aſſured of a very ſtrange providence of God that lately happened at *Wincaunton* in the County of *Sommerſet* on the 29 of *May* 1661. the Relation whereof as it was received from honeſt and faithfull perſons eye-witneſſes take as followeth.

Gods ſtrange & miraculous preventing the burning of an Effiges made to repreſent a faithful Miniſter of the Goſpel.

Upon the ſaid 29 of *May* (being his Majeſties birth day, and appointed as a day of thanksgiving for his Majeſties Reſtitution to the exerciſe of his regall power over theſe Nations;) Mr, *Sacheveril* the Miniſter of the Town of *Wincauton* aforeſaid did in the Celebrating the memorial of that day or on the Lords day foregoing, preach to the People from that portion of Scripture, 1 *Sam.* 12. 25. *But if ye ſhall do wickedly, ye ſhall be conſumed both ye and your King*; From which words he raiſed very clearly this obſervation, *viz. That wicked and prophane men are the worſt Subjects*, which he demonſtrated and confirmed by ſeverall arguments, and in his application did endeavour to convince that part of his Auditory which his Text was moſt applicable to of the inconſiſtency of their preſent courſe of Prophaneneſs, Drunkenneſs, Whoredom, Scoffing at Religion, Swearing, Blaſpheming, &c. With that which is Loyalty indeed and wherewith any Prince can be either advantaged or honoured; The rude debauched multitude of the Town (who judged themſelves the beſt Subjects becauſe

becauſe moſt obnoxious to the preachers reproofs) were extreamly ſcandalized and enraged at this Doctrine, and reſolved to be avenged on the Miniſter for ſo open detecting their diſloyalty to their Soveraign, to which purpoſe they prepare an effigies made of ſtraw and clothed it in black, which might repreſent Mr. *Sacheverel* and put into its hand, the Catechiſm compiled by the late reverend Aſſembly of Divines, and with a horſe or horſes drew it through the Town upon a Sled, and at ſeveral honeſt ſober mens doors as they paſſed along they made a ſtand, demanding of it whether it would read the Common-prayer or no, to which ſome were appointed ſtill to make anſwer in the negative, whereupon they draw it away to the place where they had ſet in order above an hundred fagots of furſes and other ſuch like combuſtible matter in the mideſt of which pile they place the aforeſaid effiges upon a ſhort pole, and then kindled their Bonefire; and though the effigies was in the mideſt of a very quick and fierce flame which aſcended above it, yet the fire had no power at all over it, but it remained after a good part of the materialls were conſumed altogether untouched, at which the multitude were ſo enraged that one of them diſcharged a Gun at it, which as he ſhot it off, brake in pieces and hurt himſelf with ſome others that ſtood near him; Then another of the company ſtruk at it with a hanger which alſo by the force of the blow brake in two; then they took it down and held it in the fire, and the wind blew the flame from it, ſo that they could not make it burn, then they held it in the fire on the contrary ſide, and the wind immediately turned and kept the flame again from ſeizing upon it; After all they were forced to pull it to pieces, and ſo by piece-meal at laſt conſumed it in the fire; This relation with the ſeverall Circumſtances of it, as we have here inſerted them will be atteſted by divers Inhabitants in the

the ſaid Town of *Wincanton*, and the truth of the ſtory is ſo notoriouſly known there, that the actors themſelves have not the face to deny it or any part of it, and we cannot but hope that it hath left ſome conviction upon them, ſeeing the Lord by this ſtrange and miraculous providence hath ſo publiquely and manifeſtly diſowned and rebuked their barbarous and inhumane uſage (and that only for telling them the truth) of their faithfull Miniſter in their attempts (though in vain) againſt that man of Straw which they made to repreſent him. And let it alſo be an encouragment to him, and all the reſt of the Lords faithfull Meſſengers in this day of great Apoſtacy to hold faſt the truth, and to cleave to that God *who ſtilleth the noiſe of the Seas, the noiſe of their waves and the tumult of the people.*

Some remarkable Apparitions and Prodigies that have happened in the Waters, together with ſtrange and unuſuall double Tides from May 1660. *to the* 14 *of Feb.* 1660.

I.

Six horſes were ſeen drawing a Coach up and down a River.

LEtters from a very credible Perſon out of *York-ſhire* to one of quality in *London* do certifie us, that in the month of *May*, 1660. in *Craven* in *York-ſh.* was ſeen 6 Coach-horſes drawing a Coach firſt down and then up the River with very great fierceneſs.

II.

II.

WIthin a mile of *Fetcham* in the way to *Leather-head* in *Surry* were three Springs, the lower of which uſed to run very ſtrongly, but ſince the latter end of *October*, 1660. for about four months it did not run at all, though the two upper Springs (which according to an ordinary courſe in nature ſhould firſt have failed) have continued all this while running. Some of the Inhabitants near the place take great notice of it, becauſe it never in their remembrance happened ſo before, except once which was in the year 1648. and much about the ſame time of the year.

The loweſt of three Springs dried up near *Fetcham* in Surry.

III.

ABout the beginning of Winter laſt, a very great Well by *Chirk* Town, four miles from *Oſweldſtry* in *Denbighſhire* was alſo dried up, which hath not as far as the Inhabitants there can remember at any time heretofore happened, except a little before the laſt great Plague.

A great Well dried up near *Chirk* town.

IV.

IT is very certain that this year both at *Croyden* in the County of *Surry*, as alſo at a place called *Fair-Mile* near *Henly* upon *Thames* in the County of *Oxford*, a ſmall ſtream of water hath broken out, which the adjacent Inhabitants of both places do take notice of, with very great fear and conſternation of Spirit, becauſe when the like hath happened heretofore, either Peſtilence, Famine, or ſome dreadfull chance and revolution have alwaies enſued.

Two ſmall ſtreams have broken forth, the one near *Croyden* the other near *Henly*.

V.

A double Tide at *London bridge, Novem* 2. 1660.

UPon the ſecond of *Novemb.* laſt, being the day wherein her Majeſtie the Queen Mother came to *White-Hall*, there was a ſtrange double Tide obſerved at *London* Bridge; the account whereof take as followeth: Whereas by the uſual courſe of the River it ſhould have ebbed till four of the Clock in the morning, and then ſhould have flowed till eight or nine; but this morning, *viz. November* the ſecond, it was flood from one of the clock till four, and then ebbed about two hours time a yard and a half, and then which was about ſix of the clock it was flood again till ten in the forenoon and then ebbed again.

VI.

Another ſtrange tide whereby 1000 ſheep were drowned near Graveſ end,

THere was likewiſe, *Novemb.* 16 when there was no wind ſtirring, another very ſtrange Tide at *London-bridge*, it ſhould have ebbed that morning till four or five of the clock, and it was flood and flowed till four, and ebbed about an hour or ſomewhat more, whereas commonly the ebbing is ſeven hours below Bridge; After that the water ſeemed to ſtand ſtill, and run no way for an hour together, and the Sſhips did ride as if they had been in ſtanding water, then it began to flow again, and though this happened but two daies after the Moon entered into her laſt quarter, at which time the Tides are alwaies loweſt, yet it was as high as any Spring Tide whatſoever, it was obſerved to riſe five foot at leaſt higher then the Tide immediately foregoing, and it roſe ſo high and that ſo ſuddenly and unexpectedly, that near *Graveſend* above 1000. Sheep were drowned; This flood continued for about 3 hours and then ebbed again.

In

In the 17 *year of* Queen Elizabeth, *there happened at London-Bridge a double Tide ſomewhat like theſe which we have mentioned in the* 2 *foregoing particulars,* Baker Chron p. 422. *In the ſame year died* Mathew Parker *the Arch Biſhop of* Canterbury, *as alſo not long after* Walter Devoreux *Earle of* Eſſex, *and Earle Marſhal of* Ireland *fell ſick of a* Lask *and preſently died,* Stow. p. 679. 681. *The Paralel.*

Such a Tide likewiſe happened in the year 1608. *and not long after a peace was concluded betwixt the King of* Spain *and the States General of the united Provinces,* Stow p. 893.

We find likewiſe that a little before the late King Charles (*then Prince of* Wales) *began his voyage towards* Spain, Anno. 1622. *The Thames ſhifted four Tides within the ſpace of five hours* Stow, P. 1035.

VII.

UPon the ſame day alſo, it is moſt certain that there was a very ſtrange Tide at *Hull*, after it w s fall'n water, and according to its courſe ſhould have been half ebb, it was flood again, and higher by a foot then at the time of high water; This comes from an honeſt deſcreet Merchant that lives there who was an eye-witneſs. *A ſtrange Tide at Hull.*

VIII.

VPon the 20 of *November* 1660 the River *Derwent* was at *Derby*, and five miles above and five miles below that Town, for three or four hours together totally dried up, ſo that no water during that time came to any of the Mills upon the River, the boats were all on ground, and the fiſhes left upon the ſand, ſo that the Children took them up in their hands, and in ſeveral places the people went over the Channel with their ſhoos dry-ſhod. This is *The River Derwent near Derby dried up, Novemb.* 20. 1660.

the more remarkable becauſe this River *Derwent* is an in-land River, and uſeth not at any time to ebb and flow, and it is alſo at *Derby* above 100 foot broad and ſeven or eight foot deep at leaſt, and beſides it is likewiſe an extraordinary quick fierce ſtream; Therefore the hand of the Lord is the more eminently ſeen in cutting off the waters thereof for ſo many miles together, and for ſo conſiderable a ſpace of time.

Camden ſayes of this River that it carries a full and lofty ſtream, *Brit.* p. 554.

The Parallel.

Anno 1399 *and the laſt year of King* Richard *the* 2. *his Raign, the River* Ouſe *near* Bedford *ſtood ſtill, and by reaſon that the waters gave back on both ſides men might paſſe on foot within the very Channel for* 3 *miles together, not without wondering of all that ſaw it,* Cambd. Brit. p. 399.

What ſome did adjudge this to ſignifie you may ſee in Baker Chron. p. 167. *It was conceived alſo that it did portend the civil broyles between the Houſes of* York *and* Lancaſter *which happened not long after, and wherewith* England *for a long time was rent in pieces,* Cambd. ibid.

Alſo in the year 1443. *and the* 22 *of the Raign of* Henry *the* 6. *The ſame River* Ouſe *on new-years-day ſtood ſuddenly ſtill, and divided it ſelf. What the thoughts of many then were of the ſignification of that wonder, and what not long after it did enſue, the juditious Reader may find at large in* Baker Chron. p. 213.

IX.

The Water ſo low at *London-bridge* that with a Pole one might have leapt over the Channel.

WHereas upon the 16 of *December* 1660 it ſhould have been full Sea at *London-bridge*, according to the uſuall courſe of the Tides at ten of the Clock in the morning and twelve minuts after, at the ſame hour the *Thames* was ſo low that ſome walked on the ſands into the mideſt of the River, and at ſix of the clock the ſame night it was ſo dry to the very nar-

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row Channel that one with the help of a Pole might have leapt over it, as ſome diſcreet perſons eye-witneſſes do affirm.

In the year 1550 *when the Perſecution began to wax hot in* Scotland *againſt the Profeſſors of the Truth, amongſt many Prodigious ſignes which were then obſerved, this was one, that ſome great Rivers in the middeſt of Winter were dried up,* Spotteſwood, Hiſt. *of the Church of* Scotland. *The Paralel.*

Alſo in the year 1592 *the River of Thames was ſo low, that ſome did ride over it on both ſides of* London-bridge, *and ſhortly after the Peſtilence brake forth with great violence, and ſwept away many Families in* London, Stow. p. 765, 766.

Anno 1632. *a little before the King of* Sweden *was ſlain at that fatal Battle at* Lutzin, *a River of no ſmall account in* Swedeland *loſt its water, inſomuch that for a whole day a man might go through it with a dry foot,* Germ. Prod. p. 48.

X

Another ſtrange tide at London-bridge, Feb. 14. 1660.

UPon the 14. day of *February* 1660 there was likewiſe another very ſtrange Tide at *London-bridge*, for after a whole hours ebb at the leaſt, the flood came in again and continued flowing for an hour and an half, and then for about the ſame ſpace of time the water ſeemed to ſtand ſtill, and then it ebbed again.

Strange and unuſual accidents, together with ſome remarkable Judgements befalling divers perſons in this Nation, from June 1660. to the 23 of April, 1661.

I.

Mr. *White* Miniſter of *Ruffham* ſtruck dead while he was reading the Service-book,

ONe Mr. *VVhite* Miniſter of *Ruffham* in *Suffolk*, a man of Parts and one that did pretend very much zeal for the Reformation of religion in the Presbyterian way, upon the late change did write in vindication of Epiſcopacy, *&c.* Or gave ſome ſuch like Teſtimony of his receding from his former Principles, and was one of the firſt Miniſters in thoſe parts that attempted to read the Service-book: But it pleaſed the *Lord* to give him a very ſharp rebuke, for upon his firſt attempt he was ſmitten and fainted away while he was in the Reading-place, but comming preſently to himſelf again he proceeded to read on, and was ſmitten in like manner the ſecond time, and ſo carried out of the Church for dead, though afterwards by the uſe of means his life returned to him; but whether he hath ſince recovered his perfect health again or no we have not heard.

II.

UPon the 3 of *June* 1660. being the *Lords* day, at *Brokington* in *Gloceſterſhire*, there was a Religiou

gious meeting of many Godly Christians from several Towns in those parts. The place of Scripture which the Preacher did that day treat upon was, *Jude* 14, 15. *ver.* *And Enoch also the seventh from Adam prophesied of these, saying, Behold the Lord cometh with ten Thousands of his Saints to execute Judgment upon all, and to convince all that were ungodly amongst them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.* And while he was expounding and applying that Scripture, the Clark of the Town his Daughter (who was publiquely noted to be a prophane and most malitious scoffer and reviler of all that desired to walk strictly as becomes the Gospel, and more particularly of these who were now assembled as aforesaid, and (according to credible information) she was active in procuring some of the County-Troop to come and disturb them in their meeting that day) with her Mother came in amongst them to scoff at them as at other times, but more especially to see these poor honest men routed and pulled out of their meeting-place by the Souldiers, who by this time for that purpose were even at the door; But a most remarkable and righteous hand of the Great and Terrible God did after a most dreadfull manner prevent her therein, for (having continued there but a very little while) she gave a great and sudden schrich and fell down dead before them all; her Mother with others that were near her, used all the means they could to restore her life, but all proved ineffectuall; This Judgment of God hath been generally taken notice of in those parts, as a thing Publiquely known to be true, and the effects of it have been considerable in many persons there.

III. One

III.

One offended with an honest Minister for speaking against the Common prayer book as he conceived, prosecuted the Minister with great violence, but the Lord put a stop to it by taking away the prosecutor by suddain death.

ONe Mr. *Ourd* formerly a Major in the late Kings Armie, being present one Lords day, about the beginning of *September* 1660 at *Anwick* Church in Northumberland, where one Mr. *Rowell* is Minister, and hearing him that morning preach something as he conceived against the Common-prayer Book, expressed great discontent at it, and in the afternoon caused the Church doors to be shut up, so that Mr. *Rowell* was constrained to Preach to the people in the Church-yard; He also threatened that the Minister should forthwith be turned out of his living; In order whereunto he not long after repaired to the Assizes at *Newcastle*, and there indicted the said Mr. *Rowell* for speaking disgracefully of the Common-Prayer Book, but by the interposition of some friends of the Ministers he was wholly prevented of effecting his design for that time; But being in pain to be delivered of the mischief he intended against this good man, he attends the Judges at *Durham* Assizes also, and there his successe was better then at *Newcastle*, for he procures something wherwith he purposes severely to scourge Mr. *Rowel*: But now the Lord immediately from Heaven pleads the cause of his faithfull innocent Servant, and makes his Prosecutor a sad and Publique example of his displeasure; For as he was returning from *Durham* to *Anwick* upon the twenty fourth of *Sept.* 1660. And going over a shallow water not a foot deep he fell suddenly from his horse, some that were near and saw him fall made all possible hast to him, who when they came to help him up (as they themselves relate) found him dead and very cold, they used what means they could to recover him, but in vain; When the Jury viewed his body, they gave in their verdict that he was dead before he fell

fell from his horse, for they could find no hurt at all about him which they could judge was occasioned by his fall that might bring him to his end; This is a thing too notoriously known in those parts to be questioned.

The Under-marshal in Calice *who was a great informer against, and Persecutor of good people, there did suddenly fall down dead and never spake word more sayes* Mr. Fox *in his Acts and* Monum. *The Paralel.*

IIII.

OUt of *Leicestershire* it is certified from unquestionable hands, that a Gentleman of good quality and Estate an Inhabitant in a Parish in that County, did very much urge the Minister of the place to read the Service-book; when he saw he could not by his importunitie prevail with him to do it, out of his extraordinary zeal to propagate that way of Devotion, upon a Lords day following did himself read it in the Church to the people, the Minister being a man of a peaceable Spirit did no wayes interrupt him in it, he declared his purpose to do the like again another Lords day following, but on that morning before Church-time, as he was in his Parlour writing a letter, which according to vulgar report somewhat concerned that business of the Common-prayer Book, he was struck with a dead palsy on one side, which immediately gangrened, so that he became a most loathsome creature, and so stunk that none was able to come near him, in which sad condition he continued roaring and crying out because of his pain, for about three Weeks time and then expired.

One angry with an honest Minister for not reading the Common-Prayer, undertook to do it himself one Lords day, and intending to do it again the next Lords day, was taken that morning with a dead Palsy, and so hindred of his purpose.

V.

A Miniſter Baptizing a Child with the ſign of the Croſs, and ot the ſame time drinking to exceſs, as he rode home that night was kil'd by a fall from his horſe.

AT the requeſt of an Inhabitant in a Town near *Bilrica* in *Eſſex*, a certain conformable Miniſter that lived not far from thence came over and Baptized his Child, wherein he not only made uſe of the Sign of the Croſſe, but withall told the people that it was uſefull to defend from all evil, at the Chriſtning-feaſt it ſeems the Miniſter (who according to the Apoſtles rule ſhould have been no Wine-bibber, but an example of Temperance and ſobrietie to the reſt of the people,) meeting perhaps with that Wine which the French call *Vinum Theologicum* which is indeed the beſt Wine, did at that time drink to exceſs, however he would adventure to ride home that night, and going through *Belrica* he could not paſs by the Tavern *inſalutatam*, but there he calls for a pint of Wine; the Vintner having at that time more diſcretion then the Parſon, and obſerving what caſe he was in, refuſed to let him have any more Wine, telling him he had drunk too much already, at which the Miniſter was ſo enraged, that he immediately took his horſe, and as well as he could rode away in a very great chafe towards his Habitation; but as he was going the Vintner being much affected with his Condition and fearing leaſt ſome diſaſter might befal him in his way, becauſe he ſaw he was not well able to fit his Horſe, did very kindly offer him a Servant of his to wait upon him home, which he with great ſcorn and indignation refuſed, however the Vintner commanded one privately to follow him, who after he was gone a little way from *Bilirica*, ſeeing him fall from his horſe, ran immediately to help him up; But the Parſon was exceeding angry with him for following him, and charged him to return home again, and gave him twelve pence to do ſo, and then he getting up

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on horseback again, and having rid but a very little way further, falls down again, and the man that followed him went withall the speed he could make to help him, but when he came to him he found him stark dead; The truth of this is notoriously and Publiquely known in those parts.

How many examples like to this have been known heretofore, and amongst them also some drunken Superstitious Priests, you may see at large, Clarks Exam. p. 146. *see also* Divine Traged. p. 19. *The Paralel.*

VI.

MEster *Bartholomew*, the late Minister of *Camden* in *Glocestershire* who was sometime a zealous stickler for Presbyterian Reformation, and did exceedingly oppose and Preach against the Common-Prayer-Book, was yet prevailed with to read some part of it, as it is feared much against his Light and Principles; But the very first Lords day that he read it, he was strucken with sickness and died before the next morning.

One reading the Common-prayer, as it is feared against his Light, was strucken sick and died.

The like Judgment happened to one Cox *who was a zealous assertor of the Truth in King* Edward 6. *his time; But when* Queen Mary *came to the Crown he embraced the Religion wch was then in fashon and aforded best preferment, it pleased the Lord that he going at night well to bed, died before the morning,* See Beard Theatre &c. p. 42. *The Paralel.*

One Dan. Basil *Professor of Divinity at* Prague *in* Bohemia *a noted Apostate, was surprized also with suddain death,* Bohem. Hyst. p. 358.

VII.

A forward man in prosecuting Mr. *Mayo* for not reading the Common-prayer book; found drowned in the River of *Thames*.

ONe *Thomas Butler* of *Kingston* upon *Thames* in *Surry*, who was a bitter enemy to Mr. *Mayo* the Godly able Minister of that Town, and was most principally active of any other in preferring a Bill of Indictment against him for not reading the Common-prayer book, was seen on the 17 of *October* 1660 (which was about a fortnight after the preferring the said Indictment) to come drunk out of an Alehouse or Tavern in *Kingston*, and for four dayes after he could not be heard of any where, till at the four daies end he was found drowned in the River of *Thames*.

The Paralel.

It is observable that one Wright *an Inhabitant of this same Town of* Kingston, *a notorious scoffer at Religion, and a violent Persecutor of the reverend Minister of the said Town, the immediate Predecessor of the present Incumbent (though he was not drowned) yet was suddainly struck with a dead Palsy, and lay in a most miserable Condition for a short time and then died, See* Divine Traged. p. 22.

VIII.

Severall men urge a Minister to read Common-prayer and give them the Sacrament, for not doing of which they combine together to do him some mischief, wherein they were prevented by the suddain cutting off of 7 of them by the stroak of death.

MAster *Woodward* Minister of *Dursly* in *Glocestersh.* being very desirous to preserve the Ordinances of Christ from Polution and defilement, did in the former times keep back from the Lords Supper some notorious scandalous impenitent persons in his Parish, who upon the late re-entry of the Bishops, did begin to take courage and came to the Minister, demanding of him to read the Common-prayer book and to admit them to the Sacrament; Upon his refusall to gratifie their importunity in either of them, they went away very much dissatisfied

fied and enraged, and entered into a Combination the next Sacrament day to preſs in upon him, when he was adminiſtering the ordinance, and if he refuſed to admit them, that then they would do him ſome miſchief; but it pleaſed the Lord before that day came, to take away ſix of thoſe perſons by death one after another, and a ſeventh being ſtruck ſick immediately told his wife he ſhould dye, though there was then outwardly but very little ſign of ſo ſudden a change, but he taking his bed with the conceit of it, intreated his wife to ſend for Mr. *Woodward* the Miniſter to come to him, telling her ſtill he was ſure he ſhould dye of that ſickneſs; according to his deſire his wife ſent for Mr. *Woodward*, unto whom when he came to him he did freely unboſome himſelf and told him the whole ſtory of the the Combination above mentioned, and begged his pardon, together with his prayers to the Lord for him, withall telling him that he knew he ſhould dye as the reſt of his companions had done before him, and entreated Mr. *VVoodward* to Preach at his Funerall, and then declare unto the people what he had now diſcovered to him, which accordingly he did.

IX.

A Gentlewoman ſpeaking againſt the Phanaticks, was ſtruck ſpeechleſs & afterwa ds dyed.

IT is certified from very good hands concerning one Mr. *Townſends* Daughter of the City of *Worceſter*, that being preſent at a Bonefire in *VVorceſter*, the evening of that day (according to our beſt Information) when his Majeſtie was Proclaimed, that ſhe drunk healths and moſt violently rayled againſt, and bitterly curſed the Phanaticks, it pleaſed the Lord that the ſame night her ſpeech was ſuddenly taken from her, and her tongue very much ſwelled in her mouth, and within four dayes after or there abouts ſhe died; Her Father ſent to Mr. More an eminent

eminent Minſter in that City, defireing him to bury her with the Book of Common-prayer, upon his refuſall he got one *Horril* who lived not far from thence a man of a very ill fame to do it, and when he ſhould have read, his eye-ſight was utterly taken away from him, he tryed ſeveral Books but could read in none of them, the people waited near a quarter of an hour till at laſt another Parſon was by the friends of the deceaſed requeſted to do that office for them, who (though as it is thought not canonically qualified for the ſervice) in ſuch an exigency did undertake it, but performed it ſo confuſedly that all preſent were exceedingly aſtoniſhed at it; This is a truth atteſted by ſeverall Citizens of note and credit in *Worceſter*, and indeed too notorious to be contradicted by any.

X.

Severall Nonconformiſts committed to priſon, thoſe who were their violent Proſecuters ſtricken with ſickneſs and died.

ABout twenty ſober Religious people being met together near *Carmarthen* to Worſhip God, were taken and carried to that Town, as they went through the Streets they were much abuſed by railing ſpeeches, and ſome that were more rude and barbarous threw ſtones at them as they peaceably paſſed along, in which actions there was one Mrs. *Simmons* that was obſerved to be more forward then all the reſt, one Mr. *Bird* alſo *Tertullus* like did moſt vehemently accuſe and implead theſe poor Chriſtians, it was ſo remarkable that the Juſtice himſelf according to the duty of his place, did publiquely check him for being ſo buſie and violent in that wherein he was not at all concerned; The Mayor alſo of the Town was exceeding cruell to them, committing them to the Dungeon for ſome ſpace of time, they continued about five weeks in Priſon, during which time or a few dayes more, the Mayor and his wife, the aforeſaid Mr. *Bird* and Mrs. *Simmons* were

whereby the hand of the Lord ſmitten with ſickneſs and died, to the great admiration both of Town and Country.

We Read that in the time of the ſeventh Perſecution under Decius *the Emperour, when* Secundianus *and others ſuffered for the Teſtimony of Chriſt, that thoſe who were moſt forward and cruell in promoting that bloody work were cut off by ſuddain death,* Clark Martyr. p. 53. *The Paralel.*

XI.

MEſter *Symmes* the Miniſter of *Wimbleton* in the County of *Surry*, being by the violence of one of the Church-wardens, hindred from preaching in the Publique place, did preach at his own dwelling houſe to as many as were free to come thither to hear him; It was very much obſerved that one *Nathaniel Pace*, an Inhabitant of that Town of *Wimbleton* did moſt bitterly raile againſt Mr. *Symmes* and the meeting, and was heard often with very great rage and violence to curſe them, and to breath out threatning words againſt them, but this he did more eſpecially on one Lords day, which was *Octob.* the ſeventh 1660. And it pleaſed the Righteous and Juſt God, that on the very next day when the ſaid *Nathaniel Pace* was upon the Heath cutting Furſes, he was ſtruck with a dead Palſy (as it was conceived) but he preſently begun to recover and grow better for a few houre, ſo that he was able to return to his work, but after he had a while continued ſo he grew very ill again, and then fell down as dead among the Furſes, he was not found till nine of the clock at night, and then was carried home where he came to life again, but lay raving, curſing and ſwearing till he died, which was within very few dayes after.

One who did rayl at, and curſe a faithfull Miniſter and other good people, was ſoon after ſtricken with a dead Palſy, & and lay curſing and ſwearing till he died.

Thus it happened to a violent hater and Perſecu-

The Paralel.

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tor of a Godly Minister in *Hungary*, God struck him with sickness and soon after he ravingly died, *Fox Acts and Monu. &c.*

XII.

One who malitiously prosecuted an honest man for delivering some Books to his Friend while he was writing to a Justice of the Peace about it, was struck dead before he could send his letter away.

BY a Letter from an unquestionable hand in *Yarmouth* bearing date *January* 28, 166c. We are assured that the Clark of the Peace for the County of *Norfolk*, did most maliciously prosecute one Captain *Salter* for giving a Book (which contained a Narrative of the severall executions of those ten men who suffered in *October* last) to a Gentleman, a friend of his in that County, Captain *Salter* was bound over to the Sessions, and the Clark of the Peace writes a letter to one of the Justices who lived near to the Gentleman, to whom Captain *Salter* gave the aforesaid Book, that he should bind him over to appear at the *Sessions* to Testifie against the said Captain *Salter*, when he had finished his Letter on the back-side of it, he writes down severall questions which he desired the Justice to propound to the said Gentleman when he should appear before him, *viz. what Conventicles had been lately kept at his house, and who the persons that met there, and what Books Captain Salter did deliver to any person to his knowledge*, when he had done this, before he could come out of his study to send away the letter, he fell down dead and never came to life again, one coming in to him found this letter just finished, and seeing the contents of it, sent for the gentleman whom it concerned, and shewed it him who took a Coppy of it, by which means we come to know the certain Truth of it.

The Paralel. *In the year* 1510 *one* Augustine *a Lawyer, a great stickler against and a malitious Prosecutor of the Nonconformists in* Bohemia (*called then the* BROTHERS) *was struck en*

stricken from Heaven with the stroke of suddain death while he was in his house sitting at supper, Pohem. Hyst. p. 79.

Also Dr. Duning *Chancellour in the same County of* Norfolk, *a bloody Persecutor, in* Queen Maries *dayes was suddenly taken sitting in his Chair and died*, Fox Acts and Monu. &c.

XIII.

Two men who violently prosecuted an honest Minister, smitten dead before they came to testifie against him.

THere was a malitious person in *Salesbury* whose name was *Payne* a Brewer, who did inform some of the Justices against Mr *Troughton* a Godly Minister in that City, the 27 of *November* 1660. was the day appointed for the Justices to come over to *Salisbury* to hear this Information, and examine some witnesses upon it; But it pleased the Lord that the aforesaid *Payn* (who was to be the chief witness against this good man, and had made a vow not to brew any more Ale till he had driven him out of the City) died within a very few hours before the time appointed for hearing the business, so that the Justices were constrained for want of Testimony to return from *Salesbury re infecta*.

Much about the same time another also of that City whose name was *Hater*, a violent and malitious prosecutor of the said Mr. *Troughton* was suddenly taken away by death; of the hand of God against these two men, great observation hath been taken both by the generality of the Citizens and some of the Justices.

The Paralel.

Mr. Richard Sedgwick *an eminent gracious man and an able painfull Preacher of the Gospel for many years together at* Wapping, *was in his younger daies called to be the Minister to the Merchant Adventurers Company at* Hamborough, *amongst whom he did very much good, being Instrumental in drawing many Souls to* Jesus Christ,

at which the Divel was very much enraged, and ſtirred up an eminent Merchant of the company againſt him, becauſe of his impartiall dealing in his Miniſtry and the order in the Church, (the only crimes wherewith Mr. Troughton *above mentioned was charged by his adverſaries) who threatened that by ſuch a day, and named it, he ſhould be ſent away for* England *and diſmiſſed his employment, but before that day came, the Merchant himſelf was ſummoned by death to another place,* Clarks Martyro. p. 397.

XIV.

A violent Proſecutor of good men ſtrucken dead ſuddenly at *Kingſton.*

UPon the firſt day of the Aſſizes, being *March* the 4. 1660 at *Kingſton*, it pleaſed the Lord to ſtrike with ſudden death as he was drinking a glaſs of Wine in the Caſtle Tavern, there the under Sheriffe of that County, a notorious hater and perſecutor of Nonconformiſts, and a moſt violent ſtickler for the Common-prayer book, and it is well known that at the time of his death he was maliciouſly proſecuting ſome thing of that nature againſt ſome honeſt peaceable people in that County.

The Paralel.

One Mornay *a French man immediately after he had been inſtrumental to bring a Godly Proteſtant to the Stake, was by ſuddain death taken out of the World,* Acts *and* Monuments.

XV.

A woman, was envious againſt a godly Miniſter, wiſhing her fire in his belly, wch fire burned her own houſe and many others before night.

AT *Ilmiſter* in *Somerſetſhire*, a woman who very much hated a godly able Miniſter that was newly turned out of his Living, there as ſhe was bringing home ſome fire which ſhe had fetched from a Nighbours houſe, wiſhed that it were burning in the ſaid Miniſters belly; the ſame day as it is reported

ed there was acted in the Town a Play in derision (as some do affirm) of that which they call the Rump Parliament;) This woman made great hast to dispatch her business that she might be at leasure to attend the Divertizement of so good an exercise as that Play was, and it seems in her hast did leave her fire (kindled, by that which a little before she wished in the *Ministers* belly) very carelessly, insomuch that her own house with about twenty six houses more, upon or near the market-place were before night burnt down to the ground.

XVI.

A certain person whose name was *Mason* an Inhabitant of *Mountgomery* in *Wales*, went one day from the said Town to a Farm not far distant in pursute of a cruell and malitious design against some Nonconformists in those parts, in his return home between the Farm and the Town he fell from his horse and lay for dead, his horse coming home without him, and search being made for him, at last he was found and brought to a Neighbours house near the place where he fell, it was not long before by the use of means he came to life again, but like a distracted man he continued a few dayes and died.

One that went to a place not far from his own house, in order to the promoteing of a mischievous design against some Nonconformists of his Neighbourhood, in his return fell down dead from his horse.

XVII.

A Gentleman of good quality and a very credible person giving a visit to a great Lady not far from *Charing-Crosse*, was entertained by her with very bitter Invectives against the Parliament-party, from whom she had received in former times very great civilities, and towards whom during all those times she was exceeding moderate; But now not like the same woman very much transpoted with

A Lady who uttered very horrid blasphemous words was not long after taken away by death.

paſſion againſt them; The Gentleman endeavoured to calm her Spirit, and amongſt other diſcourſe told her *it was not good for any to be too confident, for if we provoked God by our Wickedneſs, he could eaſily as he had done this, ſo make another change in a moment if it pleaſed him*; She replyed in a very great paſſion, *No it is impoſſible for God himſelf to make another change*; A very little while after the ſame Gentleman ſeeing her Husband in *Weſtminſter Hall* in mourning, asked him the cauſe of his wearing that mourning Habit, he replyed to him that his wife was lately deceaſed; And we would in charity hope that God before that change paſſed upon her ſelf did convince her of the Truth of that Scripture, *Pſalms* 135. *verſe* 5, 6. *The Lord is great, and our Lord is above all Gods, whatſoever the Lord pleaſed, that did he in Heaven, and in Earth, in the Seas, and in all deep places.*

The Parallel.

One Libanius *of* Antioch *immediately after his ſpeaking horrid blaſphemous words died ſuddenly*, &c. Clarks Examp. p. 46.

Alſo one Dennis Benefield *for uttering very Blaſphemous Speeches was ſmitten by the Lord with ſuddain death as ſhe was going between* London *and* Hackny, Acts *and* Monuments.

We could eaſily collect many more Inſtances of the ſame kind, but we omit them to avoid prolixity.

XVIII.

One who thirſted after the blood of other men, ſuddainly ſickened and afterwards died, and blood iſſued out of him to admiration.

ONe Mr. *Ruſſell* an Apothecary in *Bucklers-bury London*, being in company with ſome perſons of good quality and credit, amongſt other diſcourſe inveighed moſt bitterly againſt Phanaticks, and ſaid that more of them muſt be hanged, *&c.* One of them replyed to him that he hoped that the blood which had been lately ſpilt at *Charing-Croſſe* and *Tyburn*, would ſatisfie him and the reſt of his Friends, he anſwered

ſwered no, we muſt have the blood of more of them yet, and ſo named divers perſons who were formerly active for the Parliament, and if they might have the blood of thoſe men he believed then they ſhould be all ſatisfied, but not till then; It pleaſed God that this man went home and that night ſickned and grew worſe and worſe, till at laſt he was deſperately ill and full of Torment, and ſeemed to be extream reſtleſs in his Spirit, till at length within a week after he had ſpoken the aforeſaid words, he was taken away by death, and immediately after his breath was out of his body, there iſſued from his mouth, noſe, ears and Fundament very great and unuſuall quantities of blood, to the great admiration and aſtoniſhment of the beholders who had not the leaſt knowledge of the abovementioned diſcourſe, which ſo immediately preceded his death.

Charles *the* 9 *King of* France *whoſe thirſt could never be quenched with the blood of the Proteſtants, by Gods juſt judgment fell ſick and with great effuſion of blood out of many parts of his Body, died miſerably,* Acts *and* Monuments. *The Paralel.*

XIX.

AT *Horſney* in *Suffolk*, one *Gibbs* a very prophane ſcoffing man againſt Religion, did cauſe his hogs-trough to be brought forth to a Bone-fire, which was then in the Town, and ordered the wood to be ſet round it, ſaying that this was the Phanaticks Pulpit, which he would now have burnt to aſhes, and ſo made himſelf and the company very merry with that fooliſh and ridiculous conceit; It pleaſed the Lord that in a very ſhort time after, this mans Houſe and Barns were ſet on fire with Lightning from Heaven and al burnt down to the ground, ſince which time he is obſerved to be more ſilent, and

One at a Bone-fire brought his hogs-trough to be burnt as the Phanaticks Pulpit, but afterwards his houſe and barns were burnt by lightning.

and forbears his Scoffing invectives againſt good men.

The Paralel.

Immediately after the Q. *Mother of* Scotland *had uttered ſome jearing and ſcoffing ſpeeches againſt ſome diſtreſſed Proteſtants who were ſlayn before the VValls of* Leith, *a ſuddain fire kindled in that Town which burnt up all the* Q. *Store-houſes and Proviſions, whereupon ſhe preſently fell ſick and died,* Clarks Examp. p. 581.

XX.

A perſon rejoyciug in expectation to ſee Maior General *Harriſon* go to his execution, was ſuddenly taken with a ſtrange Trembling or Convulſion-fit.

THe day that Major General *Harriſon* ſuffered *October* 13 1660, a Pantaloon Ruffainly Gentleman, placed himſelf near Newgate to ſee the Major General drawn to his Execution, one that ſtood near him obſerved him often to break forth into moſt execrable curſing and ſwearing, he would be frequently wiſhing, *Oh that the Rogue would come away, that I might ſee how like a Rogue he looks now he is going to be hanged*; at length *Harriſon* came, and as this Gentleman had fixed his eye upon him, he was ſmitten immediately with ſuch a trembling that he was not able to hold a joynt ſtill, his companions got him into a houſe that was near, and the perſon that had obſerved him curſe and ſwear as before followed him into the houſe, and endeavonred to lay the Judgment of God home to his Conſcience, but he ſeemed ſenſible of little, but cried out continually *O I think my heart will come out*, he continued in this miſerable Condition in that Houſe for the ſpace of about two hours, then he was convayed away by his Friends, and what became of him ſince we have not heard.

XXI.

XXI.

THe same morning Mr. *Peters* suffered at *Charing-Crosse*, which was *October* 16 1660. A Poulterer in East-cheap rejoycing much at the death of that man, came cross the Street to a Butchers shop, rayling most bitterly against Mr. *Peters*, saying to this effect, *Now the Rogue Peters was gone to be hanged, and would Preach no more, &c.* While the words were yet in his mouth, a great Dog that lay under the Butchers Stall, came violently upon him without any provocation at all, bit him and tore him extremly, and drew him under the Butchers Stall, and could not be gotten off him till he had bitten, as we are informed, 18, or 19 dangerous holes in his body, he was in great hazzard of his life by it, and kept his bed for some weeks after, but as we heare he is since recovered; This Providence was the more remarkable because the dog was alwaies wont to be very gentle, and never observed either before or since to fly at any one, especially in the day time and in the Street; and besides this Poulterer using daily almost to come over to the Butchers Shop, was as familiar with the dog, and the dog with him as if he had been his Master.

One coming over, rejoycing to a Neighbour of his for that Mr. *Peters* was gone to be hanged, a great dog flew upon him, and did bite severall holes in his body to the endangering of his life.

XXII.

ONe Mr. *Anthony Palmer* an able faithful Minister of the Gospel, was by the former powers setled as Preacher at *Bourton* on the water in *Glocestersh.* where he continued some years, but lately by the force and violence of some few of the Inhabitants was driven from his Charge, being several times in danger of his life, and so was constrained for a season to withdraw from the place, and did substitute an able Minister to preach in his room; But one of the Parishoners

Two malitious persons who did violently prosecute a good Minister, were suddenly taken away by death.

Pariſhoners that had been the chief ſtickler againſt Mr. *Palmer*, brings an Epiſcopal man to read the Common-prayer Book there, and one Lords day when he had begun to read, the other Miniſter whom Mr *Palmer* had requeſted for a time to ſupply his place for him, went up into the Pulpit and begun to ſpeak to the people what he conceived tended more to their Edification then what the other was then about, and wherein he ſo prevailed, that the other at laſt was forced to ſurceaſe; Upon this that perſon before mentioned (who was ſo fierce and cruel an enemy to Mr. *Palmer*, and the onely conſiderable Patron in that Pariſh of this Common-prayer Book man) ſtood up in the Congregation and defired the Neighbours to depart with him, and not to hear ſuch a Fanatick as was in the Pulpit, he prevailed with very few, except his Chaplain to bear him company; But it pleaſed the Lord ſuddainly within a few hours after to ſtrike him with death. Another of the Pariſh that was his abetter and companion in the forementioned proceedings, was alſo ſuddenly ſmitten in a very ſtrange manner, his hands graſping one in another that they could not be opened, who in three dayes time was taken out of the world by death alſo.

The Paralel.

One that was Chamberlain to the Emperour Valens *expreſſed much diſcontent againſt a Religious Monk becauſe of his frequent preaching, and did at one time, eſpecially in the preſence of the Emperour, abuſe him with taunts and raying Language, but preſently the hand of God ſtroke him with an Apoplexy and he fell down dead,* Beard Theat. p. 26.

One who was come to *London* in order to do ſome prejudice to ſome honeſt people in his Country, was prevented by death.

XXIII.

ONe that lived in *Wales*, a great Perſecuter of Nonconformiſts in his Neighbourhood, being not

not able to carry on his design against them, there in any proportion to the malice that was in his heart towards them, about Michaelmas last, in order to a more severe and effectuall prosecution of them, came up to *London*, but his purpose God did wholly frustrate, for within two dayes after his arival there he was carried out of the world by death.

XXIIII.

ONe Mr. *Constantine* a Minister in *Cheshire* was most injuriously dealt withall and persecuted by a Gentleman in that County, who was (as we are informed) the Patron of the living where Mr. *Constantine* was setled, but it pleased the Lord to send great swarmes of Lice to this Gentleman, wherewith he was grievously infested, and having some convictions upon his conscience, he went to Mr. *Constantine* acknowledged the wrong he had done him, and desired his pardon, and the benefit of his prayers to the Lord on his behalf; But within a short time he died of this noysome desease.

A patron of a living where a godly Minister was setled having done much injury to this good man, was so over run with lice that he died.

Tertullian *writes concerning one* Claudius Herminianus *a great hater and persecutor of the Christians, that God smote him as he did* Herod *so that he died of vermin, but before his death sayes he,* cognito errore suo penè Christianus decessit, *being convinced of this error in afflicting the servants of Christ, he died almost perswaded to be a Christian himself.*

The Paralel. Ad Scapulam, p. 89.

Maximinian *the Emperour a cruel Persecutor of the Christians, was by the hand of God struck with a grievous desease, vermin bred abundantly in his body wherewith he was so infested, that not being able to endure it any longer he hanged himself,* Eusеb.

One Philips *also a bloody enemy to the Protestants in* Q. Maries *dayes, and particularly to* Mr. Tindal, *a Godly Minister fell into a grievous sicness and was consumed with* Lice, Acts and Mon.

XXV.

UPon the 23 of *March* 1660. a dreadfull Judgement was executed by Gods immediate hand upon one *Dorothy Mately* an Inhabitant of *Ashover* in the County of *Derby*, an exact and true relation whereof was taken from the mouth of a very credible person (who lives in the said Town, and was an eye-witness of this severe stroke) by an eminent Citizen of *London*, who upon occasion hath since that time been at *Ashover*, and according to the information he there received concerning it did himself draw up the Relation following.

This *Dorothy Mately* lived in *Ashover* in the County of *Derby* four miles from *Chesterfield*, she was a woman of a very wicked life and conversation as divers people of the Town informed me, and particularly noted for a common curser, swearer, thief and lier, and had gotten a constant habit of this Imprecation (in her asserting of any thing,) *I would I might sinke into the Earth if it be not so, or I would God would make the Earth open and swallow me up*, and the like, some of the Town said they had heard her use such like imprecations hundreds of times; Her usual labour that she followed for her living was to wash the rubbish that came forth of the Lead Groves or Mines, and therein to get sparks of lead ore (as they called them;) And upon the 23 day of *March* 1660, the said *Dorothy* being washing Ore on the top of a *Steep* and Rocky Hill, about a quarter of a mile from *Ashover*, was taxed for stealing two single pence out of a Youths pocket (who had laid a side his Breeches whilst he wrought in his drawers) which she violently denied, wishing the ground might swallow her up if she had them, and used the same imprecations several times upon other occasions that day: And one *George Hodgkinson* of *Ashover* a man of good repute amongst his Neighbours,

bours, coming accidentaly by the place where the said *Dorothy* was at work (the time aforesaid) stood still a little to talk with her, she was washing her Ore in a Tub with a sieve in it, the people shewed me one like to it which I think was near four foot in the Diameter, and about two foot and a half deep; There was a little Girle standing at her Tub side, and another Wench being at some distance called aloud to them, and they not understanding what she said, the said *George Hodgkinson* went to the Tub side and taking the little Girle by the hand, said come go along with me, and hear what the Wench hath to say to you, but as he said he and the Girle were not gone ten yards from the place before he heard the woman behind him crying out for help, and thereupon looking back he saw the Woman and the Tub twirling round and sinking, (as his own expressions were) and he, making answer to her cry, said, *pray to God to pardon thy sin, for thou art never like to be seen alive any longer* or words to this effect, but when the woman and the tub were sunk about 3 yards down, she staied a while and called again for help, thinking as she said that she should stay there; and the man being sore amazed, yet beginning to think how to help her, immediatly a great stone which appeared in the earth, fell upon her head, and broke her skull, and then the earth fell in upon her, and covered her; She was afterwards digged up and found about four yards within ground, but her Tub and Sive was not found, there was found in her pocket the single pence which she had denyed; After conversing with *George Hodgkinson* and some other Inhabitants of *Ashover* I went to see the place, which is on the top of a Hill as aforesaid, there is a lead Grove or pit about six yards from the place, this grove as the people told me was forty odd Fathom deep cut through hard Rocks, and there was not the least shrinking of Earth into that Grove, the

place where the woman ſunk was a round hole or pit as I Judge about three or four yards deep, and I think about the ſame breadth at the top, but narrow at the bottom, the ground round about is firm and not the leaſt crack in it that I could diſcern, and the very place where the woman and her tub ſtood appeared the like before her ſinking, there lies great weights of ſtone and ore all about it, and the like hath done upon that place; I asked the people if they could give any reaſon for her ſinking, and they anſwered God only knows the reaſon (or to that effect) *George Hodgkinſon* the immediate eye-witneſſe ſeemed much affected with it, and ſaid he hoped it would do him good, and that he ſhould have occaſion to remember it all the dayes of his life.

XXVI.

While the Biſhop of *Oxford* was conferring orders upon ſome perſons, a ledge of wainſcot fell down upon the Communion Table. Alſo Dr. *Barten Holiday* as he was adminiſtring the Sacrament fell down and ſo wounded himſelf that he could not proceed to officiate any further.

ON the 31 of *March* being the Lords day 1661, two ſtrange accidents happened at Chriſt-Church in *Oxford* where the Biſhop of the Dioceſs was met with ſeveral of his Clergy to confer holy orders (as they call them) upon ſeveral perſons, there is ſome difference in the reports about them.

But from a member of that Univerſity who is a great friend to that way, and will be far from ſpeaking any thing to the diſadvantage of that party, take the relation of it as followeth, being an extract of a letter under his own hand to a perſon of quality near *London*, dated at *Oxford April* 4 1661 *in hæc verba*, On Sunday laſt the Biſhop of *Oxf.* conferred holy orders at Chriſt-Church, whil'ſt they were about the Solemnity two ſtrange and unuſual accidents happened wch have already occaſioned diſcourſes here, & I doubt not the ſtory will get with advantage to *London*, the firſt was that whil'ſt the Biſhop was confirming ſeverall perſons, a great ledge of wainſcote fell down either upon or nigh the Communion-table, which it is thought if the Biſhop had not been in the body

body of the Chancel laying hands on the persons to be confirmed, but in the place where he read the prayers it would have done him a mischief; The other accident was that Dr. *Barten Holiday*, the Arch-Deacon of *Oxford* administrng the Wine at the Sacrament (which is alwaies on such occasions to be administred) fell down and hit his face against the chalice, so as to wound himself so much, that he was forced to desist and Dr. *Lamplugh* of Queenes officiated for him.

From another member of the same University and as credible a person as the former, we have a more full (yet true) account of this business as followeth. Upon the last day of *March* there were many ordained in Christ Church Chappel, one of wch swounded twice that they were forced to intermit till strong water was fetch'd, after which the Bishop went on in his work, wherein he had not long proceeded before a Canopie made of winscoat, a great while since erected over the high Altar, fell down upon the late railed Altar, and with its fall threw down the bread appointed for the Communion that day, together with the drinking vessels, and made them fly several waies; but after this a worse thing chanced, when the Table was prepared again for the Communion, and all consecrated by the Bishop, as *Dr. Holiday* his Lordships Arch Deacon was marching with the cup down the steps from the high Altar to administer it, he fel down with an exceeding violence and cut both his hand and his face, whereby he was utterly disabled from officiating any further for that time in that service.

XXVII.

ONe *Luke Hodges* of the City of *Worcester* with two or three more of his friends and companions had occasion not long before the 23 of *April* last 1661 (being the day of the Kings Coronation) to ride (acco-

Three or four debauched persons Inhabitants of *Worcester* did no the day of his Majesties Coronation drink healths to so great excesse, that two of them fell sick immediately upon it and died.

(according to our beſt information) to *Droyt Wych*, where their buſineſs it ſeems detained them the day before mentioned, which according to the mode of thoſe that would be accounted the beſt Subjects, they did celebrate in ſwearing and rioting, but eſpecially in drinking the Royal healths (though expreſly contrary to his Majeſties late Proclamation on that behalf; but theſe men that they might excell and become paramount in the Solemnity of the day, did agree that the moſt conſiderable healths ſhould be honoured with putting a live into every glaſſe of Wine a little fiſh, which in that Country they call a loch, and ſo to drink down wine and fiſh together, and if at any time the fiſh ſtuck by the way according to their agrement they were to ſwear and curſe it down; when the Solemnity was ended and they had made uſe of the ordinary means (ſleep) for the recovery of their ſenſes, and were now from beaſts in ſome competent degree transformed into men again as well as they could, rode home to *Worceſter* where the Righteous God immediately calls ſome of them to an account for their late prophaneſs and horrible abuſe of themſelves and his Creatures, and ſtrikes the aforeſad *Luke Hodges* with a deſperate and violent ſickneſs, during all the time whereof he was in unſpeakable torment, and ſtill fancied (as we have credibly been informed) that the fiſhes which he drank down did continually gnaw upon him, after a few dayes ſickneſs he miſerably ended his life.

About the ſame time another of them whoſe name was *Segar*, the Lord ſtruck much after the ſame manner and in a ſhort ſpace of time he alſo breathed out his laſt, the reſt are for the preſent reſerved to take warning by the example of Gods ſevere Judgements upon their fellowes, whereby the Lord with a very loud and moſt articulate voice calls them to ſpeedy repentance and reformation *leaſt they likewiſe periſh*, *Luke* 13.5.

It would fill a considerable Volumne to collect the several judgments that have been inflicted upon drunkards and health-drinkers, the Reader may furnish himself with variety of Examples of this kind if he look into Beards Theat. &c. *and* Clarks *Examples, and a book called a Divine Tragedy; we shall only pick out these three short instances, which come the neareſt to a Paralel of any that we can find.* The Paralel.

1 *At the Plough in* Barnwel *near* Camb. 4 *persons were engaged in this sin of drunkenness, and drunk so much that within a short time after three of them died and the fourth narrowly escaped after a very great sickness,* Clarks Exam. p. 148.

2 *Also at a place near* Mauldon *in* Essex 4 *or* 5 *persons appointed a drinking match, and did there abuse the Creatures of God to very great excess, they drank Healths in a very strange manner, whereof all of them dyed in a very short time after,* Clark. ibid. p. 149.

3 *To these two, we shall add onely one more; An Episcopal conformable Minister going down (*Anno. 1634.*) on a Saturday night with some of his Neighbours into the Countrey, the next day being the Lords Day they went in the afternoon a little way to visit a* London *Minister, who had another living in the Countrey, he entertained them very courteously with good store of Sack,* &c. *the Parson who was the visitant drank so freely, that he was ill all night, and the next morning grew worse, his Neighbours got him home as well as they could to* London, *and before the next Lords Day following he dyed.* Divine Trag. p. 28.

The Conclusion.

WE *have now given a faithful account to the world of those great and remarkable providences which have come to our knowledge within the compass of the respective times mentioned in the foregoing Narrative. Many other particulars of the like nature we have by us, which came to*

our

our hands too late to accompany these which we have now published. We shall therefore reserve them together with what of the like kind may for the future from good hands be communicated to us (wherein we beg the utmost assistance from all the Lords People in the several Countries) to another season, which if the Lord *vouchsafe, they shall see the Light also. In the mean while, we cannot but recommend to the Readers most serious perusal, an excellent Discourse of Dr.* Martin Luther *(that Faithful Servant of Jesus Christ against Antichrist) upon* Luke 21. vers. 25, 26. &c. *being very lately by an able and faithful hand, with great exactness Translated out of his Narrations on the Gospels and Writings of the Apostles and other places of Scripture, Printed at* Basil, Anno. 1546. *Which Sermon as we judge, doth most lively open and apply the foregoing History of the great and marvelous Works of the Lord which cannot indeed be rightly known or understood but by his Word. And what this Famous and Eminent Light of the Church did Declare and Teach so long agoe, is exactly calculated for this Year of Prodigies and Wonders. We read in* Rev. 4. vers. 5. That out of the Throne of God, proceeded Lightnings, and Thundrings, and Voices, &c. *By Lightnings and Thundrings, we may well understand the Terrible and Dreadful Works and Dispensations of God, which being alone, make but a very uncertain sound, but* Voices *(which signifie the Preaching of the Word) being joyned with them, they may the more clearly be understood, and the better improved* by all those that take pleasure therein. *Now as Face answers Face in a Glass so truly and fully doth the foregoing Narrative in all things comport with the forementioned Sermon, upon wch account we do the more affectionately at this time recommend it to the Sober and Judicious Reader, praying unto the Lord, that all those who shall have Hearts and Opportunitie to look seriously into it, may thereby through Divine Blessing, be fully instructed in the Mind and Meaning of God, in these late eminent and Signal Works and Wonders of his Providence amongst us.*

FINIS.

* This is not that Sermon of *Luthers*, upon the same Text which was heretofore translated into *English* and Printed at *London*, *Anno* 1570. though that also be a Discourse well worthy the Readers most diligent perusal.

55393